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Travel Information

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Welcome

As a visitor to the United States, you'll probably be surprised to find that ours is not one but fifty different "countries". Every state has its own way of life, its own laws, its own physical character. What other nation in the world so bewilderingly combines huge, glittering cities with empty grasslands, tropical islands, desert resorts, mountain skiing villages, prehistoric canyons — and Disneyland? Where else can you hear the language change from English to Spanish, Italian to Chinese, and Greek to German—all within the space of a few city blocks?

This is a land where Eskimos commute in airplanes, black men conduct symphony orchestras, and Indians build skyscrapers. We Americans find our vast nation as fascinatingly diverse as you will —and we're exploring it all the time. Travel here is a major industry, so you'll benefit from its sophistication and its efficiency. A flawless network of communications and transportation systems links all fifty states together, reducing the sheer size of America to a convenient minimum. The speed with which the traveller can hop on a plane, hire a car, or telephone toll-free for accommodation a thousand miles away, never fails to delight our guests.

In making things easy for ourselves, we have made things even easier for you. This booklet summarizes some of the more important travel opportunities and services available in the United States, and includes general information you may find useful.

On behalf of our fifty different countries, welcome!

Depository Copy

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Introduction to the United States

The United States is the fourth largest country in the world, after the Soviet Union, Canada, and China. Unlike those nations, however, it is almost entirely habitable, so its population of 215 million is widely spread across its 3,536,855 square miles of land area. It is commonly, and wrongly, thought of as a populous country — but that impression rapidly vanishes as soon as the visitor leaves the major cities and sees how spaciously Americans live. In states like Nevada, for example, there is more than a square mile of empty land for every resident; even New Jersey, the most densely populated state in the Union, is over fifty per cent forest.

The fantastic physical and social variety of the United States cannot be fully comprehended on one visit, or even twenty: there is simply too much to see. You could spend an eventful vacation in New York City or Los Angeles without once stepping outside the city limits; or you could spend an equally rewarding time in the mountains and canyonlands of Utah, without once visiting Salt Lake City—one of the most beautiful capitals in the country. Even a "single attraction" like the Grand Canyon offers an amazing choice of travel opportunities. You can explore its North and South rims by car, or descend into those multicolored depths by mule caravan, or foam along the very bottom of the canyon in a Colorado River "white water" raft.

The secret of making a rewarding visit to the United States, then, lies in careful selection—if possible before you travel—of just what you want to see and do here. Plan outwards around your gateway—from city to state, from state to region, and consult with your travel agent: he may tell you you're attempting too much. Balance a busy day of shopping or galleries with a relaxing day on the beach, or a cruise on a sternwheel river boat. Eat a different cuisine every night—even in small Midwestern towns you can find Mexican restaurants side-by-side with steakhouses and trattorias. Revel in the eccentric variety of American museums: carriage collections, cowboy archives, sporting halls of fame, prehistoric sites, presidential birthplaces, wine cellars, "Robber Baron" mansions. Don't think, even if you're passing through some

anonymous-looking village or grim industrial centre, that there's nothing to detain you there—a quick look at a local guide book might prove rewarding. For example, the little town of Marlboro, Vermont (pop.: 80) hosts America's most prestigious music festival, while the great manufacturing city of Cleveland, Ohio, has a Museum of Fine Arts second only to New York's Metropolitan Museum.

One rewarding way to tour America is to choose a theme that suits your personal interests. If, like many of our visitors, you are interested in the American Indian, you can map an itinerary which links Indian reservations, museums, trails, and historic sites to your gateway city. You can make a technological tour of the nuclear stations and space-centres of the South, or a Revolutionary tour of the battlefields of the Northeast, or a wine tour of California, or a river tour of the Mississippi . . . the possibilities are inexhaustible. No matter how specific your field of interest, you'll discover the variety of America constantly entertaining and distracting.

Our visitors tell us we are the friendliest, most informal people in the world. (They also tell us that our manners are sometimes too brusque, that our conversation is startlingly frank, and that we do not care much for privacy!) If we are friendly it is because this is an open land, traditionally hospitable to any newcomer; and if we are informal it is because we hope it will make you feel doubly welcome.

What to See and Do

America the Beautiful (Natural Wonders)

From the snowy peak of Mount McKinley (20,320 ft.—6,193 m.) in Alaska to the alligator swamps of the Florida Everglades, from the dazzling dunes of California's Anza Borrego Desert to the bare cliffs of Mount Cadillac in Maine, the United States is a mosaic of National and State Parks—2,976 of them, covering 33 million acres of unspoiled wilderness. This vast system also includes hundreds of official historic sites, battlefields, parkways, wildlife refuges, scenic riverways, memorials and monuments.* It is impossible to list all of them here, but the following overview which should be read in conjunction with the fold-out map on pages 33-35 will give an idea of the countless beauties of America.

*Note: do not confuse the latter terms—a Memorial has a specific commemorative purpose, whereas a Monument is an area preserved by Presidential proclamation, often indistinguishable from a Park.

Imagine you are an orbiting astronaut, approaching the west coast of the United States on one of those clear fall days when sunshine pours down over the whole country. The glittering sands and tropical foliage of Hawaii have already passed beneath you, and slipped over the horizon, behind. Now, rising out of the Pacific surf ahead of you is the tremendous state of California. The snow-rimmed Sierra Nevada looms behind it like a wall; slicing across it is the spectacular canyon of **Yosemite,** full of feathery waterfalls (one is ten times the height of Niagara). A little further south is the forest of **Sequoia**—1,000 square miles of the world's biggest trees. The world's tallest trees are in northern California, in **Redwood** National Park.

Far up to your left you will see the peaks of the Cascade Mountains in the state of Washington. There is the glacier-frosted hulk of **Mount Rainier,** whose ice-caves bathe the visitor in blue light, and the chlorophyllic green rain forest of **Mount Olympus.** There, too, in south Oregon, is a perfect cone filled with a sapphire lake of rain and snow water—**Crater Lake National Park.**

Far down to your right, in the southern part of California, is a different world entirely: **Death Valley,** the hottest and driest area of America.

Much of it lies below sea level, and the temperature has been known to rise to 134°F. Yet despite its fearsome name and reputation, this National Monument has a harsh loveliness all its own, and can be comfortably explored by bus or hired car. (Air-conditioned models are standard throughout the southwestern United States.)

Even further south and west, zigzagging across the red and purple desert, is the world's most stupendous spectacle: the **Grand Canyon.** Many things famous for size seem disappointingly small on first acquaintance, but be assured this one is bigger than you can imagine, much less describe.

Utah and Arizona are prodigal in other national areas. There are the fairytale pink towers of **Bryce Canyon,** the incredible colours of the **Painted Desert,** the jewel-like logs of the **Petrified Forest,** and the prehistoric cliff dwelling of **Mesa Verde,** to name just a few.

As your spaceship begins to pass over the Rockies, you will notice the gorge of sparkling water running down the border of Utah and Colorado—the Green River. Located in the valley is **Dinosaur National Monument**, a paleontological treasure-trove where the gigantic bones of mastodons are excavated in the view of visitors. Twenty-four complete skeletons have already been coaxed from the grainy rock.

Up north, where the Rockies curve from Wyoming into Idaho and Montana, is **Yellowstone National Park,** the world's greatest concentration of volcanic activity. Should you be orbiting past at the right moment (every 64 minutes or so) you will be able to see one of the thunderous explosions of Old Faithful—not to mention the bubbling and steaming of 10,000 other geysers and mud cannons. Yellowstone is also a vast (2,221,773 acres) wildlife refuge for black and grizzly bears, moose, elk, deer and bison.

Not far south are the **Grand Teton Mountains,** three sharp and glittering peaks overlooking a valley of lakes which reflect them like mirrors. In fall, when the trembling aspens turn bright gold, the effect is so brilliant that the park has been called a "jewel-box of nature." **Rocky Mountain National Park,** north of the mile-high city of Denver, is an enormous swath of the Wild West, perfectly preserved. All these parks are open year round.

The southern border of the United States is

receding further and further away as you move out across the Great Plains, still heading east. Down there to your right, in the huge expanses of New Mexico, and Texas, are the powdered-alabaster dunes of **White Sands National Monument;** the immense pillars of the **Guadalupe Mountains** (ornamented with Stone Age graffiti); the invisible vaults of **Carlsbad Caverns**—whose Big Room is the largest underground chamber in the world; and, furthest south of all, the Rio Grande flowing through the gorges of **Big Bend National Park.**

For a while now you soar over the immense, treeless flatness of the Great Plains—a checkerboard of green and gold farms extending from horizon to horizon. Only in the north, where the Black Hills rise out of a sea of wheat, is there any geological interruption. In that area you will find the rolling prairies of **Wind Cave National Park,** and the fantastic eroded **Badlands** of North and South Dakota, where great herds of "buffalo" (bison) still roam.

Now the approaching line of "Old Man River," the Mississippi, signifies the end of the Great Plains. You are crossing over into the eastern third of the country, and up there in the north you can see the ocean-like vastness of the Great Lakes system. Floating in the middle of Lake Superior is **Isle Royale,** probably the most peaceful of all National Parks. Here there are no roads, no automobiles. Visitors arrive by boat or float-plane and can wander at will through a primeval paradise of spruce woods, beaver meadows, and high rugged cliffs. The island is home to a sleek moose herd, and is alive with the songs of birds from one end to the other.

A range of low, forested peaks creeps over the southern horizon to your right. Those are the **Great Smoky Mountains** of Tennessee, so called because a permanent blue haze hangs over them, no matter how clear the weather. The haze is formed by the combined transpiration of billions of trees and shrubs: sweet gums, magnolias, hemlock, spruce, dogwood, azalea, maples, hickory, and pine. This one National Park contains more arboreal varieties than all of Europe, and it is only a small part of a mass of foliage that runs from Alabama to Maine—the Appalachian Forest.

The line of the Smokies is extended northeast through North Carolina and Virginia by a

crest known as the Blue Ridge. A parkway (scenic road, with preserved landscape on both sides) runs for 460 miles along this ridge, often on the actual rim of the mountain—the longest panoramic drive in the world, and one of the most popular units of the National Park system. It, in turn, is extended by the ridges and the lovely **Shenandoah Valley.**

The Appalachian chain is notched, about where you are crossing over, by the Potomac, Delaware, and Susquehannah Rivers. Then the mountains continue northeast via the **Catskills** and **Adirondacks** of New York State, the **Green Mountains** of Vermont, and the **White Mountains** of New Hampshire. Within the State Parks, particularly magnificent in September and October, you can watch the chemistry of turning leaves spread waves of brilliant colour across the slopes.

A veil of what looks like smoke in Upper New York State, on the Canadian border, signifies the presence of that mighty and awesome spectacle, **Niagara Falls.**

Now comes the last of America's six great regions—the Atlantic Seaboard, a chain of coastal flats, resorts, wetlands, and beaches streaming north from the sun-drenched state of Florida. (Southward, and out to sea, are the jewel-like U.S. Virgin Islands and the lush green mass of Puerto Rico.) The scores of State and National Parks that lie along the coast are too numerous to mention, but your eye might be caught by the windswept dunes of the **Outer Banks** in North Carolina and **Assateague National Seashore**—a barrier island protecting Maryland and Virginia from Atlantic breakers, roamed by sea-loving wild horses; New York's **Fire Island,** a 32-mile "floating beach" just 90 minutes from Manhattan; **Cape Cod,** a scimitar of white sand, lively beach resorts, and cranberry bogs projecting east of the Massachusetts shoreline; and **Acadia National Park** in Maine, a pink granite island on whose summit intrepid mountaineers gather every December 31 to see the New Year dawn over the New World.

NOTE: Almost all National and State Parks can be reached and explored easily by car or bus. Some have rail and air connections to major cities. Entrance fees vary from $1.00 to $3.00. A "Golden Eagle Passport" ($10.00) provides unlimited access to all parklands for all passengers in one car. Accommodation is widely available from camping sites to luxurious inns and lodges. For details of guided tours, summer and winter activities, and all other information, see your travel agent or write to the National Park Service, Washington, D.C. In the case of State Parks, write to the relevant address on pages 29 to 31.

Man-Made Wonders

The technology of the United States is advancing so rapidly that the wonders of yesteryear are soon outmoded by those of today. New York's Empire State Building, for example, once the tallest skyscraper in the world, is now only the third tallest. Photographs of the surface of the moon in Houston's Space Centre have been supplemented with photographs of the surface of Mars, and so on. The following list of man-made wonders includes some old favourites, along with newer achievements rapidly becoming the old favourites of future years.

Boeing Jumbo Jet Assembly Building, near Seattle, Washington—the largest building in the world. Its interior space—205 million cubic feet—is big enough to swallow up the previous title holder (the Pentagon in Arlington, Va.) twenty-six times! Here giant 747 airliners are constructed by the dozen, looking like toys in the surrounding vastness.

Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco, Calif. Although it's no longer the world's longest suspension bridge (that honour temporarily belongs to New York's Verrazano Narrows Bridge), this is generally considered to be the most beautiful, both in design and setting. Soaring high over the entrance to the bay, its 4,200-ft. (1,280 m.) main span connects San Francisco with the Redwood Highway.

Astrodome, Houston, Tex. More than five times the diameter of Rome's Pantheon, this colossus is one of the world's largest indoor arenas. Its air-conditioning system circulates 6,600 tons of air per minute; if it were turned off in humid weather, there would be rain inside the stadium!

Hoover Dam, near Boulder City, Nev. This stupendous curtain of concrete (3.25 million cubic yards/2.48 million cubic meters of it) is the highest such dam in the United States, and an officially recognized wonder of modern civil engineering. It provides enough water to irrigate 1 million acres of the Southwest.

Disneyland, Anaheim, Calif. and Disney World, Orlando, Fla. are actually two separate wonders, but they share some of the same characteristics: hundreds of landscaped acres including magic kingdoms, turn-of-the-century Main Streets, Tomorrowlands of the Space Age; paddle-steamer cruises; and haunted mansions. Children are enchanted; and adults are amazed

by the size, efficiency, and inventiveness of these truly fabulous developments. (Disney World, in addition to being a theme park, is a total resort complex.)

"The Rouge," Dearborn, Mich. (near Detroit). The Ford Motor Company's 12,000-acre construction plant on the River Rouge is an awesome leviathan which eats raw ore at one end and spews out shining automobiles at the other—one every fifty-three seconds. In between, the ore is smelted into iron, converted into steel, transformed into engines, frames, bodies and parts. To aid its monstrous digestive process, the Rouge operates a private railway—the largest in the United States.

Gateway Arch, St. Louis, Mo. Designed by the great Finnish-US architect Eero Saarinen, this shining, soaring arch of stainless steel commemorates the Louisiana Purchase of President Thomas Jefferson and St. Louis' role as Gateway to the West. Visitors ascend the 630-ft. arch in passenger gondolas climbing both legs of the structure.

Mount Rushmore, near Rapid City, S. Dakota. This slabsided mountain is carved with the heads of four of our greatest presidents—Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt. Each face is 60 ft. (18m.) high, and the prodigious amounts of stone blasted away by sculptor Gutzon Borglum form a motionless avalanche beneath.

Sears Tower, Chicago, Ill, and World Trade Center, N. Y. City. At 1,454 feet (443 m.) and 110 storeys, Sears Tower is the tallest building in the world—so tall that people working on its upper floors frequently telephone the lobby to ask what the weather is like at street level. The World Trade Center in New York has the same number of floors, and is only sixteen feet (4.8 m.) shorter. Both skyscrapers have observation decks and breathtaking panoramas.

John F. Kennedy Space Center, Cocoa Beach, Fla. From this natural launching pad—it's actually an island—man was blasted into space to conquer the moon. The great towers which launched the Titan, Atlas, Apollo, and Saturn programmes loom enormous against the sky, dominated by the still more enormous bulk of the 134 million cubic-feet Vehicle Assembly Building. Spacecraft are on display at the Air Force Museum.

The Statue of Liberty, New York City. Still the most popular landmark in America after ninety years, this 152 ft. (46 m.) high copper-plated statue towers green and majestic over the gateway to the United States. Its labyrinthine interior framework, designed by Gustave Eiffel of Eiffel Tower fame, can be explored by a stairway which leads to an observation gallery taking in the whole of New York harbour. The Statue and its surrounding island form a National Monument, and there is a Museum of Immigration beneath the pedestal.

American Architecture

From the eerie, prehistoric Indian cave-houses of Mesa Verde to the mirror-glass skyscrapers that reflect the skies of New York, America is a treasure house of great architecture. Each region has its own characteristic "look": white clapboard villages and steeples in New England, pillared porticoes and spacious avenues in the South, massive bulk and squareness on the Great Plains, adobe curves and shady patios in the Southwest, Spanish plaster and coloured tiles on the Pacific Coast. Superimposed upon all these traditional styles is the eclectic magnificence of modern American architecture. Amazing buildings crop up in the most unexpected places, for example the abandoned ABM missile site on the plains of North Dakota—a weird mass of pyramids and towers that has been called "one of the most peculiarly impressive built groups of our time." Even the small city of Albany, New York, combines the sedate splendour of a Victorian capitol with an eruption of huge glass skyscrapers—dramatic, even shocking, but entirely American. The following list of remarkable structures in and around major gateway cities is only a small sampling of the architectural abundance of the United States. All can be visited, often in the company of guides.

Boston—Quincy Market (restored eighteenth-century complex adjacent to historic wharf area); Massachusetts State Capitol (gold-domed Bulfinch original); Trinity Church (H. H. Richardson masterpiece); Harvard Yard (exquisite campus, dating back to 1636).

New York — Rockefeller Centre (skyscraper complex and underground city); Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace (a typical brownstone of Civil War period); Grand Central Terminal (one of the

world's largest and most beautiful railroad stations); Public Library (Carrére and Hastings original); Carnegie Mansion (Fifth Avenue chateau now housing the Cooper-Hewitt Museum of design); Lincoln Centre (theatre and concert-hall complex).

Washington, D.C. and Virginia—Library of Congress (splendidly ornate Italian Renaissance tile); White House and Octagon House (classic Georgian mansions); Jefferson, Lincoln, and Washington Memorials; Washington Cathedral (unfinished Gothic masterpiece); Mount Vernon, Va. (George Washington's Colonial plantation); and in Charlottesville, Va.: Monticello and University of Virginia (the crowning glories of architect-President Thomas Jefferson.

Chicago—Chicago Auditorium Theatre (Romanesque cultural complex by the great Louis Sullivan); Marshall Field and Co. (massive century-old retail landmark); Civic Centre Plaza (skyscraper oasis dominated by Picasso sculpture); Marina City (lakefront development, cylindrical apartment towers); and more than fifty "prairie style" buildings designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

San Francisco—Mission Dolores (Franciscan monastery, 1782); Ghirardelli Square (old chocolate factory converted to restaurants and shops); Palace of Fine Arts (extraordinary Beaux Arts pillared pavilion); Kong Chow and Tin How Temples (Chinese pioneer monuments); Japanese Cultural and Trade Centre (landscaped hotel/shopping/showroom complex); Transamerica Tower (controversial spindly pyramid).

NOTE: All major cities in the United States have Architectural Societies (see local telephone directories) who distribute free literature and walking itineraries to interested visitors.

American Art

The galleries and museums of the United States house a prodigal store of paintings and sculpture, from pre-Columbian artifacts to the very latest in contemporary computerized creativity. Many museums are free; others admit visitors on a "pay-what-you-wish" basis; a few charge a modest entry fee which rarely rises above $1.50. Remember that there are thousands of museums devoted to history, the performing arts, natural history, science, archeology, and so on. Free lectures and concerts are offered by many museums. The majority have restaurants, cafeterias, and souvenir shops.

Some of the most famous and popular art museums in the United States are New York's Metropolitan, one of the world's great storehouses of European and American art (with a superb new Egyptian gallery); Washington D.C.'s National Gallery and National Portrait Gallery; Boston's Museum of Fine Arts; Chicago's Art Institute; and the Abbey Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Musical America

Original musical art forms which the United States has contributed to world culture include spiritual, jazz, country and western, and rock. But this nation is also rich in classical orchestral music, opera, and ballet. Performances take place not only during the official fall/winter season in major cities, but also during the spring and summer at countless festivals in delightful rural surroundings. Representative listings of major dance companies and leading opera houses follow. Note: performance dates vary year to year. Always check at the local Convention and Visitors Bureau for dates and programmes.

MAJOR ORCHESTRAS

Atlanta Symphony
Baltimore Symphony
Boston Symphony
Buffalo Philharmonic
Chicago Symphony
Cincinnati Symphony
Cleveland Orchestra
Dallas Symphony
Denver Symphony
Detroit Symphony
Honolulu Symphony
Houston Symphony
Indianapolis Symphony
Kansas City Philharmonic
Los Angeles Philharmonic
Milwaukee Symphony
Minnesota Symphony
National Symphony (Washington, D.C.)
New Jersey Symphony
New Orleans Philharmonic
New York Philharmonic
Philadelphia Orchestra
Pittsburgh Symphony
Rochester Philharmonic
St. Louis Symphony
San Antonio Symphony
Seattle Symphony
Utah Symphony

MAJOR DANCE COMPANIES

Touring companies—
American Ballet Theatre
Martha Graham Dance Company

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
National Ballet

NEW YORK
Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre
Joffrey Ballet
Merce Cunningham Dance Company

New York (continued)
New York City Ballet
Paul Taylor Dance Company

PENNSYLVANIA
Pennsylvania Ballet
Pittsburgh Ballet

SAN FRANCISCO
San Francisco Ballet

LEADING OPERA HOUSES

Boston Opera
Lyric Opera of Chicago
Metropolitan Opera (New York)
New York City Opera
San Francisco Opera
Santa Fe Opera
Seattle Opera

American Theatre

Paradoxically, you do not always have to be in New York to see a Broadway show. Major new

musicals and other dramatic productions go on the road before opening on the Great White Way, sometimes performing for a full year in "try-out towns" all over the country. Also, country playhouses often revive the great successes of big city theatre during summer festivals, sometimes with the original stars as guest performers.

If you are in New York, of course, you should not miss the thrill and sophistication of a genuine Broadway "hit". Although such shows are frequently sold out months in advance, you can often get returned tickets—even for the hottest show in town—by waiting patiently at the box office an hour or two before curtain time. Good seats cost from $6.50 to $17.50, although matinees and "off-Broadway" experimental shows are often cheaper. It is possible to buy half-price tickets for shows that are not sold out at a special booth in Times Square, day of performance only.

SELECTED THEATRES OUTSIDE NEW YORK PLAYING BROADWAY-ORIENTED SHOWS

CALIFORNIA
Los Angeles: Ahmanson Theatre
—Chandler Pavilion
—Huntington Hartford Theatre
—Shubert Century City
San Francisco: Curran Theatre
—Geary Theatre

COLORADO
Denver: Auditorium Theatre

CONNECTICUT
New Haven: Shubert Theatre

DELAWARE
Wilmington: The Playhouse

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Washington: Ford's Theatre
—Eisenhower Theatre—
Opera House—National Theatre

ILLINOIS
Chicago: Arie Crown Theatre
—Auditorium Theatre—
Blackstone Theatre
—Opera House—Shubert
Theatre—Studebaker Theatre

KENTUCKY
Louisville: Macauley Theatre

MARYLAND
Baltimore: Mechanic Theatre

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston: Colonial Theatre—
Shubert Theatre—Wilbur
Theatre

MICHIGAN
Detroit: Fisher Theatre—
Music Hall

MINNESOTA
St. Paul: Municipal Auditorium

MISSOURI
St. Louis: American Theatre

OHIO
Cincinnati: Shubert Theatre
Cleveland: Hanna Theatre
—Music Hall
Columbus: Ohio Theatre

PENNSYLVANIA
Philadelphia: Erlanger Theatre
—Forrest Theatre—Locust
Street Theatre—Shubert
Theatre—Walnut Street
Theatre
Pittsburgh: Nixon Theatre

TEXAS
Dallas: State Fair Music Hall
Houston: Music Hall

WISCONSIN
Milwaukee: Performing Arts
Centre

WASHINGTON
Seattle: Opera House

REPERTORY THEATRES (selected)

CALIFORNIA
Los Angeles: Mark Taper Forum
—L.A. Free Shakespeare
Festival
San Francisco: American
Conservatory Theatre

CONNECTICUT
New Haven: Long Wharf Theatre
—Yale Repertory
Stratford: American Shakespeare
Theatre (summer)
Waterford: Eugene O'Neill
Memorial Theatre (summer)

Repertory Theatres (selected) continued

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Washington: Arena Stage—D.C. Black Repertory Company

ILLINOIS
Chicago: Goodman Theatre Company—Professional Performing Company (Kennedy-King College)

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston: Centre for the Arts

MINNESOTA
Minneapolis: Tyrone Guthrie Theatre

NEW YORK
New York City: City Centre Acting Company—Bill Baird Marionette Theatre—Public Theatre—Negro Ensemble Company

OHIO
Cleveland Playhouse
Lakewood: Great Lakes Shakespeare Association (summer)

PENNSYLVANIA
Philadelphia: Drama Guild

WASHINGTON
Seattle Repertory

Night Life in America

An increasingly popular form of entertainment in the United States is the intimate dinner theatre, which combines leisurely wining and dining with stage acts ranging from one-man performances to mammoth showgirl spectaculars. The transience rate of such theatres is extremely high: fashionable new ones constantly replace those whose attendance is slipping so no listing will be attempted here. Your best source of information will be the weekly entertainment magazines provided free in most city hotels, the show pages of local newspapers, or the classified telephone directory.

Gambling is legal in Nevada, Puerto Rico, and in Atlantic City, New Jersey. You may merely invest a quarter in a slot machine, or spend days at the roulette wheel (some casinos never close their doors). State and federal supervision of all gambling centres is extremely strict.

Bars in the major cities of the United States often stay open into the small hours of the morning, although some states and counties have restrictive liquor laws (see page 63). Bars which provide snacks and meals are generally styled "cocktail lounges."

Nightclub Tours are arranged by sightseeing companies in major cities. Your hotel will be able to put you in touch with these operators. Often such a tour is the cheapest and most convenient way of seeing the town, since the overall fee can be considerably less than the combined cover charges of all the nightclubs visited.

Sporting America

To the outsider, sport in the United States often seems like an entertaining but comforting spectacle. Many of the games that thrill millions of Americans every weekend are unique to this

country, or at least are played with an exuberance and hoopla—such as organ-music interludes and drum-majorette parades—which is all our own. The best way to discover which appeals to you is to switch on your hotel television set— any day or night of the week there'll be a game of some sort to view. Ask at the desk about tickets and schedules of current games in town. Warning: major events are usually sold out well in advance, so if you want to catch a big ball-game or live tournament it's best to plan ahead with your travel agent.

Baseball is still America's "national pastime," although it has lost ground to faster, more physical sports in the last decade. Like cricket, this is an elegant and leisurely summer game, during which tension builds up slowly but steadily. On "double-header" nights (two matches in a row), play can continue until well after midnight. Most large cities host major league games during the season (April-October).

American Football. Fast, bone-crushing, noisy and tremendously exciting, this is a game for 200-lb. supermen strong enough to withstand the tackling of two or three opponents at a time. During the season (September-December) the entire nation, or so it seems, goes football-crazy every weekend. If you fail to get tickets to a pro game, you'll find college football equally spectacular if less brutal.

Basketball. Height and speed are the basic ingredients of this brilliant, unpredictable game, one of the most popular spectator sports in the United States. Players tower six to seven feet tall or more. Played on indoor wooden courts, October-April. Most major cities have professional teams, or you can attend a collegiate game.

Ice Hockey is the fastest game in the world, with the possible exception of **jai-alai** (now very popular in the eastern states). It's also rather tainted with show-business, but the fist-fights you see on the rink are by no means simulated! Season: October through March in most northern cities.

Other sports widely popular in North America are horseracing (541 racetracks nationwide), golf, tennis, yachting, and "auto sport." The latter includes such bizarre variations as drag racing, stock car derbies, and cross-country "jeep-ins" as well as classic tournaments like the Sebring, the Grand Prix in Watkins Glen, N.Y., and the legendary Indianapolis "500".

NOTE: Sporting equipment, from tennis rackets to yachts, can easily be rented in most American cities. Tennis courts and golf courses are often available at nominal charges in City and State Parks. National Parks offer magnificent opportunities to hikers, skiers, riders, and fishermen.

Annual Festivals

Surely nothing illustrates the bubbling variety of American life more than the thousands of different festivals which celebrate thousands of different themes all through the year. Some may be serious and scholarly, like the Marlboro Music Festival in Vermont (world-famous soloists joining incognito in ensembles); others light-hearted and noisy, like the Caspar (Wyoming) Rodeo; others decidedly wacky, like the Britt (Iowa) Hobo Convention, and the Missouri World Championship Goose Callin' Contest. For a comprehensive list, see your travel agent.

Generally, winter festivals are held in the northern states from December through March; spring brings with it a host of events across the country honoring the blossoming of dogwoods, azaleas, cherry blossoms, rhododendron and other trees and flowers. In the South, tours of historic homes are often held during the spring months. Summer is the busiest time for festivals across the land. There are numerous rodeo events, Indian gatherings, lumber festivals, ethnic festivals, folk festivals, outdoor dramas, water festivals, and special activities taking place in the major cities on weekends. On July 4 the skies over the entire nation are alight with fireworks celebrating America's Independence Day. Over Labor Day weekend (the first Monday of September) and in the months of August, September and October, state fairs are held featuring rodeos, livestock shows, midways, carnivals and top-name entertainment. Both in the spring and the fall, harvest festivals are held to honor important area crops. And from mid-December to January 1 the smallest villages and largest cities alike are decorated with colourful lights, tinsel and Christmas trees for the holiday season.

Literally thousands of festivals take place here each year. When you attend a festival anywhere in the United States, you have an opportunity to see America and Americans at their best —in a festive holiday spirit. Neighbors from across the world are as welcome as neighbors from across the street. No matter what festivals you visit in any month of the year, you will be sure to get a glimpse of an America you might otherwise have missed.

How to Plan Your Trip

Travel Formalities

The first step you should take when you decide to visit the United States is to ensure you have the right documents. These are: a passport, a passport-size photograph, a visitor's visa, evidence that you intend to leave the United States after your visit is over, and—in some cases, depending on country of origin—an international vaccination certificate. (Note: British subjects resident in Canada or Bermuda are normally exempt from these requirements when arriving in the U.S. from countries in the Western Hemisphere.) Citizens of Mexico with Form I-136 coming from Canada or Mexico are exempt from passport and visa requirement. Citizens of Canada are normally exempt from passport and visa requirements when arriving in the U.S. from countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Your **visa** can be obtained quickly and painlessly either by mail or by personal application to the U.S. Embassy or Consulate nearest to you. Simply fill out the regular application form (in some countries these forms are stocked by major airlines, shipping companies and travel agents) and submit it along with the other documents listed. Your passport will then be stamped with a visitors' visa permitting you to apply at a port of entry to remain in the United States up to a maximum of six months for each entry.

Your **evidence** of intent to leave the United States at the end of your visit may be in the form of a return ticket, or any other documentation satisfactory to the Embassy or Consulate issuing the visa. Examples: a letter from your employer confirming that you will be back at your job by a certain date; or a letter from some respected member of your community (a government, bank, or school official, a clergyman or local leader) briefly describing family or social ties which will insure your return home.

Vaccination Certificate. Requirements vary, although most visitors to the United States no longer require one. Check with your travel agent, or with the Embassy or Consulate issuing your visa, and make sure you do so well in advance of departure.

Arrival Requirements

Customs regulations in the United States are liberal. You will find the inspection process at your port of entry quick and trouble-free if you prepare the few necessary documents provided en route to the U.S. by airline or steamship personnel. Non-residents may bring in the following items duty free.

1 quart (0.946 litre) of spirits or wine (by persons at least 18 years of age) local state laws permitting.

300 cigarettes, or 50 cigars, or 3 pounds of tobacco, (1.36 kilos) or proportionate amounts of each.

Gifts to the value of $100.00, providing you intend to remain in the United States for more than 72 hours and this exemption has not been claimed in the past six months. Gifts may include 1 gallon (3.78 liters) of alcoholic beverages (local state laws permitting) and 100 cigars in addition to the personal exemptions listed above.

Up to $5,000 in personal funds (amounts in excess of this require the filing of a report with U.S. Customs). Any reasonable amount of personal effects, i.e. clothing, toiletries, and jewelry, as well as items required for comfort or special purposes, such as sporting equipment, cameras, portable radio, typewriter, binoculars, wheelchair, perambulator, airplane, motorcycle, boat, car, or trailer. Note: If you intend to sell any of these items you will have to pay duty on them.

Caution

Without special permission, you will not be permitted to bring **narcotics, meats, fruits, vegetables, or plants** into the United States. If in doubt, inquire about permits for such items at the United States Embassy or Consulate in your country. The items must be declared at the port of entry.

If you need to bring **medicines** containing habit-forming drugs, it is wise to have a prescription for them prepared in advance by your physician, or at least an explanatory letter from him.

Pets such as dogs, cats, monkeys, or parrots are subject to health, agriculture, and customs requirements at the port of entry, as well as local rules and regulations at your final destination in the United States. Check for exact details at your Embassy or Consulate, or write the Centre for Disease Control, Public Health Service, Atlanta, Georgia 30333.

Insurance

Personal Insurance to cover your health, medical expenses and emergencies is a matter of independent responsibility in the U.S. American International Underwriters sells accident and hospital coverage intended especially for visitors to this country. Their offices can be found in many countries, or you may write to them at 1225 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 414 Washington D.C. 20036.

For information on Short-term **car insurance** see pages 46 and 47.

Note: Railway, bus, and air terminals in the United States sell accident insurance policies on individual journeys. Look for the insurance counters or vending machines.

Car-hire companies offer insurance, usually optional, with all models.

Climate

The United States divides naturally into five climatic regions, excluding Alaska, Hawaii, and other outlying territories.

North Pacific (Oregon and Washington to the crest of the Cascade Mountains) This is the wettest part of the country, with precipitation on some high slopes exceeding 150″ (3,800 mm.) annually. Most of the moisture, however, falls during the winter, often in the form of powdered snow—ideal for skiing enthusiasts. Summers are delightfully dry in contrast, the rainfall averaging less than an inch (25 mm.) a month. Temperatures are mild during the rainy season—averaging around 40°F (4.4°C) and rise to highs around 90°F (32.2°C) in the summer. The cold waters of the Pacific current cause romantic, transitory fogs along the coast in hot weather; these are usually gone by mid-day.

Mid-Pacific and Rockies (California, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado) Dry and brilliantly sunny for most of the year. On the western fringe of the Great Plains, as much as one-third of the year's 12″ (305 mm.) average rainfall can pour down in a single day. Temperatures vary widely according to altitude, rising as high as 115°F (46°C) in the Great Basin of California, and sinking as low as −66°F (−55°C) in Yellowstone Park. But these are extremes. Count on mild moist winters in Central California, crisp clear "skiing winters" in the Rockies, and a long, bright-skied summers everywhere.

Southwest (Southern California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, and Southwestern Texas) The hottest and most arid region of the United States, averaging less than 10″ (254 mm.) precipitation a year, mostly in the form of summer showers. The speed with which such moisture evaporates out of the sun-baked ground is so great that no crops can be raised without irrigation. The clean dry air, deep blue skies, and near-universal air-conditioning of houses, public buildings, cars, and public transport makes summer travel a pleasure, even though the temperature may soar over 110°F (43°C). Summer evenings are deliciously cool, since the heat dissipates rapidly. Winters are crisp with scattered frosts in January and February, but temperatures usually remain well above freezing.

Midwest (the Dakotas and Minnesota down through Central Texas) This north-south column, about 500 miles (800 km.) wide, is moderately dry, averaging about 24″ annual precipitation along the Canadian border and 32″ (813 mm.) in Texas. The further east you go, the greater the chance of rain—but admittedly not much. Precipitation occurs mainly in late spring and early summer. Northern winter temperatures can be very cold indeed, and summers hot wherever you are. Extremes range from −50°F (−46°C) in North Dakota to 115°F (46°C) in Texas.

The Eastern Sector (all states east of a line drawn from Lake Superior to the tip of Texas) This gigantic region—fully a third of the entire United States—is moderately rainy, averaging between 30″ (762 mm.) and 50″ (1270 mm.) a year. Precipitation is year-round, and is fairly evenly relieved with spells of clear weather; in winter it descends in the form of snow. Summers along the coast of Texas and Florida can be extremely humid, and even New York and New England experience periods of "mugginess" when visits to the beach—or an air-conditioned theatre—seem called for. On the whole, however, summers are pleasantly sunny and warm, with temperatures in the 80s and 90s F (27s and 32s C). The fall is especially beautiful in wooded areas, with clear skies, kaleidoscopic foliage displays, and spells of "Indian summer" that can last well into November.

The Weather Man

Americans, you'll find, are amusingly obsessed with weather-watching. Some hotel operators will

answer the phone with a greeting and the latest forecast. Every city flashes the current temperature on electronic signs visible for miles, often accompanied by other displays signalling the humidity and barometric reading.

All-news radio stations constantly update their forecasts every 10 minutes or so, and the meteorology spot on the evening television news is often more entertaining than featured programs. It's conducted by a professional "weather man" apparently selected as much for his acting ability and sartorial splendor as for his scientific expertise.

The low, high and average temperatures for each two month period of the year are shown in the temperature chart for selected U.S. cities on pages 26 and 27. Temperatures are given in Fahrenheit thermometric scale.

Comparison Chart—Fahrenheit/ Celsius

Fahrenheit	Celsius	Fahrenheit	Celsius
104.0°	40°	62.6°	17°
102.2	39	60.8	16
100.4	38	59.0	15
98.6	37	57.2	14
96.8	36	55.4	13
95.0	35	53.6	12
93.2	34	51.8	11
91.4	33	50.0	10
89.6	32	48.2	9
87.8	31	46.4	8
86.0	30	44.6	7
84.2	29	42.8	6
82.4	28	41.0	5
80.6	27	39.2	4
78.8	26	37.4	3
77.0	25	35.6	2
75.2	24	33.8	1
73.4	23	32.0	0
71.6	22	30.2	—1
69.8	21	28.4	—2
68.0	20	26.6	—3
66.2	19	24.8	—4
64.4	18	23.0	—5

Nationwide Weather Guide

Fahrenheit Temperatures*—January-June

City		Jan.-Feb.	March-April	May-June
CHICAGO	Low	20°	35°	56°
	High	34	51	74
	Average	27	43	65
DENVER	Low	18	29	58
	High	46	57	88
	Average	32	43	73
HONOLULU	Low	68	69	72
	High	74	75	80
	Average	71	72	76
HOUSTON	Low	48	58	71
	High	64	74	89
	Average	56	66	80
LAS VEGAS	Low	35	47	64
	High	57	73	94
	Average	46	60	79
LOS ANGELES	Low	46	50	57
	High	64	66	71
	Average	55	58	64
MIAMI	Low	59	64	72
	High	77	82	88
	Average	68	73	80
NEW ORLEANS	Low	49	59	71
	High	67	75	87
	Average	58	67	79
NEW YORK	Low	26	38	58
	High	40	54	76
	Average	33	46	67
SAN FRANCISCO	Low	43	46	51
	High	57	64	65
	Average	50	55	58
ST. LOUIS	Low	24	38	58
	High	42	60	80
	Average	33	49	69
SEATTLE	Low	24	39	47
	High	46	55	69
	Average	35	47	58
WASHINGTON, D.C.	Low	29	41	61
	High	45	61	79
	Average	37	51	70

*For conversions from Fahrenheit to Centigrade see page 25.

Fahrenheit Temperatures*—July-December

City		July-Aug.	Sep.-Oct.	Nov.-Dec.
CHICAGO	Low	67°	53°	28°
	High	83	69	42
	Average	75	61	35
DENVER	Low	43	43	22
	High	73	73	50
	Average	58	58	36
HONOLULU	Low	74	73	69
	High	84	83	79
	Average	79	78	74
HOUSTON	Low	75	67	50
	High	93	87	68
	Average	84	77	59
LAS VEGAS	Low	76	61	47
	High	102	87	61
	Average	89	74	54
LOS ANGELES	Low	62	59	49
	High	76	75	69
	Average	69	67	59
MIAMI	Low	75	73	61
	High	89	87	79
	Average	82	80	70
NEW ORLEANS	Low	76	68	52
	High	92	84	68
	Average	84	77	60
NEW YORK	Low	68	54	34
	High	84	72	44
	Average	76	63	39
SAN FRANCISCO	Low	54	52	45
	High	72	72	61
	Average	63	62	53
ST. LOUIS	Low	67	52	30
	High	89	76	50
	Average	78	64	40
SEATTLE	Low	54	47	37
	High	76	65	49
	Average	65	56	43
WASHINGTON, D.C.	Low	68	56	35
	High	86	74	51
	Average	77	65	43

*For conversions from Fahrenheit to Centigrade see page 25.

What to Pack

An important fact to remember when packing for a trip to the United States is that "climate control" is a national way of life. In most American buildings the temperature is maintained at a constant 70°F (21°C), or thereabouts, by air-conditioning in summer and heating systems in winter. This means that the clothes you wear indoors at home may prove too warm or too cool, in inverse ratio to the seasons. Here are a few suggestions you may find useful.

For **summer** touring, bring your lightest possible clothes for outdoor wear—the weather is generally hot everywhere. Men will find a lightweight jacket or blazer useful when visiting highly air-conditioned restaurants and theatres; women should pack a sweater or cardigan for the same reason. As regards "polite wear", American dressing habits are extremely casual, particularly in hot weather. Some very exclusive restaurants may insist men put on a tie and jacket, and politely request ladies not to wear jeans, but such formality is rare.

Fall is the season when city-dwelling Americans become more conscious of their clothes, so women should pack some medium-weight dresses and a suit or pants suit. Men, too, should include suits, or slacks and a jacket. At concert halls, theatres, and night clubs it is customary to dress at least semi-formally—long or cocktail dresses or designer pajamas for women, dark suits for men.

In **winter** it is essential to pack a heavy coat for outside wear except for the southernmost parts of the U.S. and the Islands. You will find temperatures very comfortable indoors, so don't make the mistake of wearing equally heavy clothing underneath.

NOTE: Electric current in the United States is generally 110-115 volt, 60-cycle A.C. As this differs from most countries, you should bring or buy an adapter for electric razors, travel irons, hair dryers, etc.

Tourist Guides

The most basic piece of travel literature in the United States is the local highway map, an essential even if you are not driving. These are usually available from all State Tourist Departments (see the next page) and also at many gas stations run by the major oil companies. At principal points of entry into most states, you will find information stations which distribute a variety of free material, including maps.

The Rand McNally Company is a premier source of quality maps and regional guidebooks, sold in all good book shops. Here are some representative titles:

Camp Ground and Trailer Park Guide
Discover Historic America
Interstate Road Atlas
National Park Guide
Road Atlas
Vacation & Travel Guide

The Mobil Company publishes a series of regional **Travel Guides** subtitled **Northwest and Great Plains States, California and the West, Southwest and South Central Area, Great Lakes Area, Southeastern States, Mid-Atlantic States,** and **Northeastern States.** A feature of these guides is that they recommend hotels, motels, and restaurants in every location (graded five stars to none). The series is updated every year.

AAA's series of tourbooks are available to members of foreign motor clubs.

There are numerous other guidebooks, dealing with every region and every theme, published constantly to satisfy the relentless American thirst for travel information. You'll find them in bookstores everywhere. (Note: stocks tend to be low towards the end of the summer season.)

You can also obtain travel information on U.S. destinations before your departure from your local travel agent. If he does not have information on the particular area of the U.S. in which you are interested, the following list of State Tourism offices may prove useful.

State Tourist Departments

All these agencies will send tourist literature and maps upon written applications. As material often arrives in huge quantities, it is best to specify what sort of information you require: for instance, if you are interested in the summer theatre season you can probably do without literature on industrial tours, beauty contests, and fishing.

ALABAMA — Bureau of Publicity and Information, State Capitol, Montgomery 36130.

ALASKA — State of Alaska, Division of Tourism, Pouch E. Juneau 99811.

ARIZONA — Arizona State Office of Tourism, 1700 W. Washington, Room 501, Phoenix 85007.

ARKANSAS — Dept. of Parks and Tourism, Room 149, State Capitol, Little Rock 72201.

CALIFORNIA — Contact local Chambers of Commerce for visitor information.

COLORADO — Travel Marketing Section, Division of Commerce and Development, 602 State Capitol Annex, Denver 80203.

CONNECTICUT — Connecticut Dept. of Commerce, 210 Washington St., Hartford 06106.

DELAWARE — State Visitor's Service,630 State College Rd., Dover 19901.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — Washington Convention and Visitor's Bureau, 1129 20th St., N.W., Washington 20036.

FLORIDA — Dept. of Commerce, 107 W. Gaines St., Tallahassee 32304.

GEORGIA — Tourist Division, P.O. Box 38097, Atlanta 30334.

HAWAII — Visitor's Bureau, 609 Fifth Avenue, New York 10017 OR: 2270 Kalakaua Ave., Honolulu 96815.

IDAHO — Division of Tourism, Room 108, State Capitol Bldg., Boise 83720.

ILLINOIS — Office of Tourism, 205 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago 60606.

INDIANA — Tourism Development Division, Room 336, State House, Indianapolis 46204.

IOWA — Travel Development Div., 250 Jewett Bldg., Des Moines 50309.

KANSAS — Tourist Division, 503 Kansas Avenue, Topeka 66603.

KENTUCKY — Dept. of Public Information, Capitol Annex Bldg., Frankfort 40601.

LOUISIANA — Tourist Development Commission, P.O. Box 44291, Capitol Station, Baton Rouge 70804.

MAINE — Publicity Bureau, Gateway Circle, Portland 04102.

MARYLAND — Div. of Tourist Development, 1748 Forest Dr., Annapolis 21401.

MASSACHUSETTS — Div. of Tourism, 100 Cambridge St., Boston 02202.

MICHIGAN — Michigan Travel Commission, 300 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing 48926.

MINNESOTA — Tourism Division, 480 Cedar St., St. Paul 55101.

MISSISSIPPI — Travel and Tourism, P.O. Box 849, Jackson 39205.

MISSOURI — Division of Tourism, Box 1055, Jefferson City 65101.

MONTANA — Travel Promotion, Dept. of Highways, Helena 59601.

NEBRASKA — Div. of Travel and Tourism, P.O. Box 94666, Lincoln 68509.

NEVADA — Tourism-Travel Division, State Capitol Bldg., Carson City 89710.

NEW HAMPSHIRE — Office of Vacation Travel, P.O. Box 856, Concord 03301.

NEW JERSEY — Office of Tourism, P.O. Box 400, Trenton 08625.

NEW MEXICO — Tourist Division, 113 Washington Ave., Santa Fe 87503.

NEW YORK — Travel Bureau, 99 Washington Ave., Albany 12245.

NORTH CAROLINA — Travel Development Section, P.O. Box 27687, Raleigh 27611.

NORTH DAKOTA — Travel Dept., Capitol Grounds, Bismarck 58505.

OHIO — Travel and Tourism, 30 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215.

OKLAHOMA — Div. of Tourism Promotion, 500 Will Rogers Memorial Bldg., Oklahoma City 73105.

OREGON — Travel Information, Highway Div., 101 Highway Bldg., Salem 97310.

PENNSYLVANIA — Travel Development, 431 S. Office Bldg., Harrisburg 17120.

COMMONWEALTH of PUERTO RICO — Tourism Development Co., GPO Box BN, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936.

RHODE ISLAND — Tourist Promotion Division, Dept. of Economic Development, 1 Weybosset Hill, Providence 02903.

SOUTH CAROLINA — Div. of Tourism, P.O. Box 71, Columbia 29201.

SOUTH DAKOTA — Div. of Tourism, Joe Foss Bldg., Pierre 57501.

TENNESSEE — Tourist Information, 1028 Andrew Jackson Bldg., Nashville 37219.

TEXAS — Travel Information, P.O. Box 5064, Austin 78763.

UTAH — Travel Council, Council Hall, Capitol Hill, Salt Lake City 84114.

VERMONT — Travel Division, 61 Elm Street, Montpelier 05602.

VIRGIN ISLANDS — Div. of Tourism, Dept. of Commerce, P.O. Box 1692, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00801.

VIRGINIA — State Travel Service, 6 North Sixth St., Richmond 23219.

WASHINGTON — Travel Development Division, 101 General Administration Bldg., Olympia 98504.

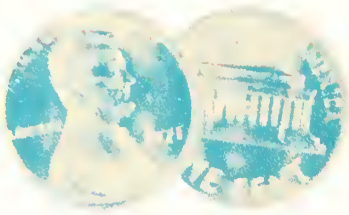
WEST VIRGINIA — Travel Development Division, 1900 Washington St., Charleston 25305.

WISCONSIN — Vacation and Travel Service, P.O. Box 7606, Madison 53707.

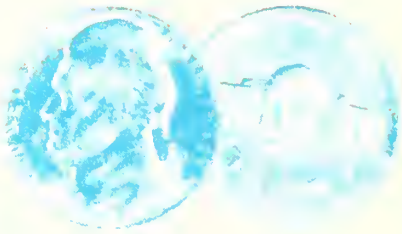
WYOMING — Travel Commission, I-25 At Etchepare Circle, Cheyenne 82002.

Currency

The basic unit of currency is the dollar bill ($1.00 equals 100 cents). Paper bills also come in $2.00, $5.00, $10.00, $20.00, $50.00, $100.00, $500, and in $1,000.00 denominations. Although all denominations are the same colour, the amounts are clearly printed on the bills. Coins are minted in 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, and 50¢ denominations.



Penny (1 cent)
100 Pennies = $1.00



Nickel (5 cents)
20 Nickels = $1.00

Dime (10 cents)
10 Dimes = $1.00

Quarter (25 cents)
4 Quarters = $1.00

Currency Exchange

You can usually exchange your currency into U.S. dollars at your port of entry. Hotels in America do not as a rule exchange currency. Most major banks do. It is advisable to change your currency where possible at airports or in larger cities. Normal banking hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

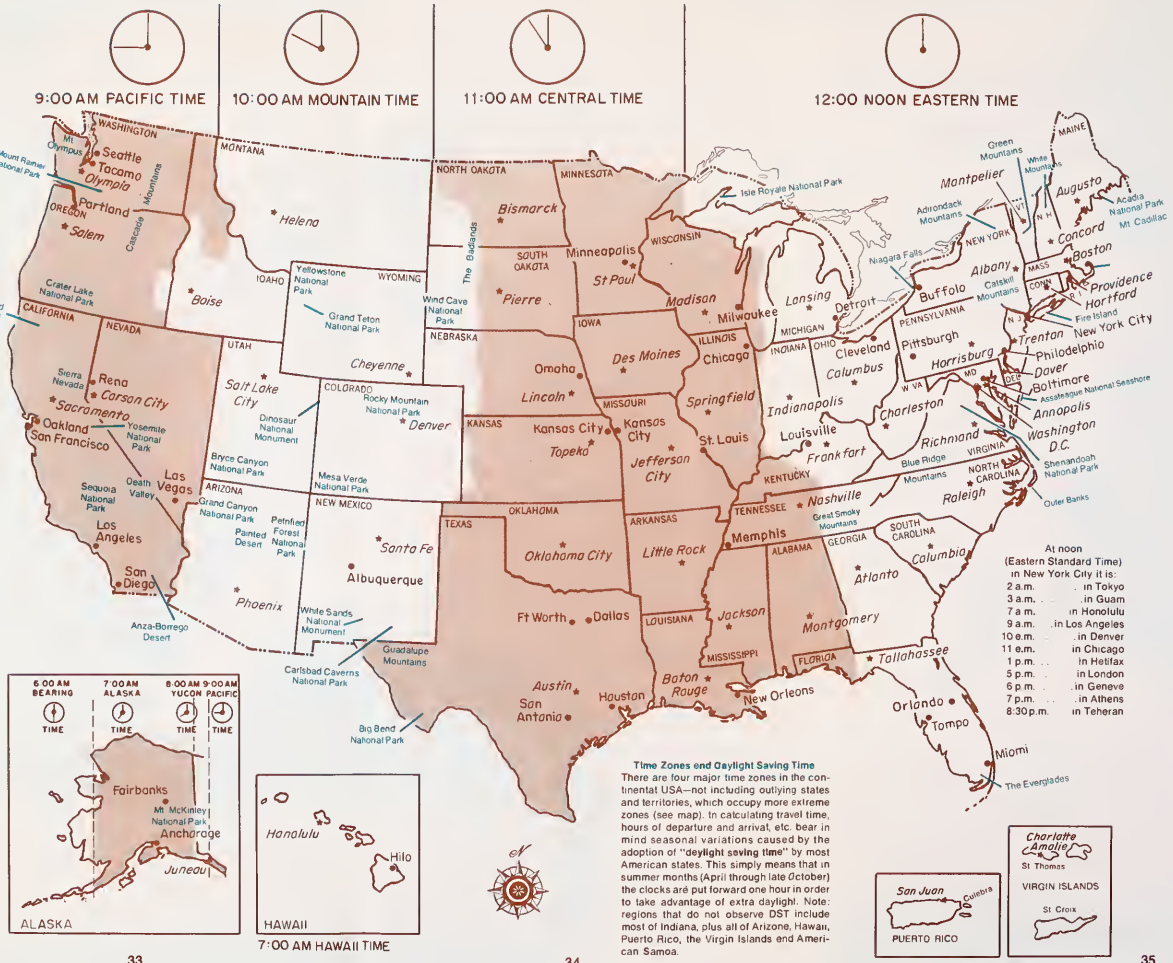
Travellers Cheques

These cheques are a safe and convenient way to carry your money. Your local bank will advise you how to buy and how to cash them. Dollar travellers cheques are generally accepted in the United States by banks, hotels, restaurants, and stores.

Letters of Credit

These documents give you a certain amount of money to rely on in case of an emergency, or for some large purchase. Your bank can arrange for one with its corresponding bank in the U.S.

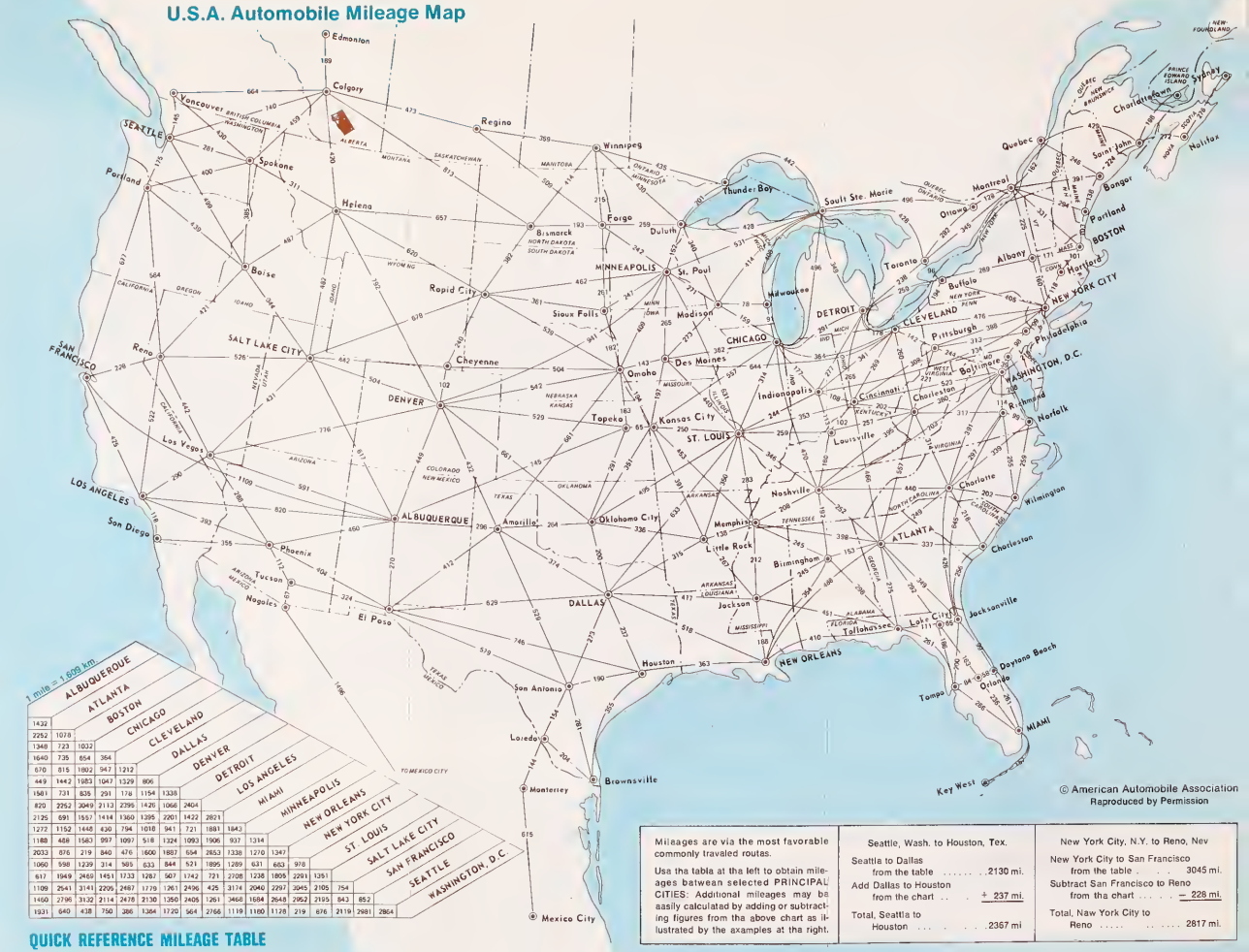
National Parks and Time Zones in the U.S.A.



Time Zones and Daylight Saving Time

There are four major time zones in the continental USA—not including outlying states and territories, which occupy more extreme zones (see map). In calculating travel time, hours of departure and arrival, etc. bear in mind seasonal variations caused by the adoption of "**daylight saving time**" by most American states. This simply means that in summer months (April through late October) the clocks are put forward one hour in order to take advantage of extra daylight. Note: regions that do not observe DST include most of Indiana, plus all of Arizona, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and American Samoa.

U.S.A. Automobile Mileage Map



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1 mile = 1.609 km.

	ALBUQUERQUE	ATLANTA	BOSTON	CHICAGO	CLEVELAND	DALLAS	DENVER	DETROIT	LOS ANGELES	MIAMI	MINNEAPOLIS	NEW ORLEANS	NEW YORK CITY	ST. LOUIS	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	WASHINGTON, D.C.
ALBUQUERQUE	1432																	
ATLANTA	2252	1078																
BOSTON	1348	723	1022															
CHICAGO	1640	735	854	364														
CLEVELAND	670	815	1802	947	1212													
DALLAS	449	1442	1983	1047	1329	806												
DENVER	1581	731	835	291	178	1154	1338											
DETROIT	820	2252	2049	2113	2396	1426	1066	2404										
LOS ANGELES	2125	691	1557	1414	1360	1295	2201	1422	2821									
MIAMI	1272	1152	1448	930	794	1018	941	721	1881	1843								
MINNEAPOLIS	1188	488	1583	997	1097	518	1324	1093	1906	937	1314							
NEW ORLEANS	2033	876	219	840	476	1600	1801	694	2653	1338	1270	1347						
NEW YORK CITY	1060	998	1239	314	585	633	844	521	1895	1289	631	683	978					
ST. LOUIS	617	1949	2469	1451	1233	1267	507	1742	721	2708	1238	1805	2291	1351				
SALT LAKE CITY	1109	2541	3141	2205	2487	1779	1261	2496	425	3174	2040	2297	3045	2105	754			
SAN FRANCISCO	1460	2796	3132	2114	2478	2130	1350	2405	1261	3468	1684	2648	2952	2195	843	852		
SEATTLE	1931	640	438	750	286	1364	1720	564	2766	1119	1160	1128	219	676	2119	2981	2864	
WASHINGTON, D.C.																		

QUICK REFERENCE MILEAGE TABLE

Mileages are via the most favorable commonly traveled routes.

Usa tha tabla at tha left to obtain mileages batwean selected PRINCIPAL CITIES: Additional mileages may be aasily calculated by adding or subtracking figures from tha above chart as illustrated by tha examples at tha right.

Seattle, Wash. to Houston, Tex.

Seattle to Dallas from the table . . . . . 2130 mi.
Add Dallas to Houston from the chart . . . + 237 mi.
Total, Seattle to Houston . . . . . 2367 mi

New York City, N.Y. to Reno, Nev

New York City to San Francisco from the table . . . 3045 mi.
Subtract San Francisco to Reno from the chart . . . . — 228 mi.
Total, Naw York City to Reno . . . . . 2817 mi.

Road Signs and Signals

You are not allowed to make a "U" turn —a complete change of direction —on this road.

Eight-sided sign means STOP.

It is against the law to exceed the limit shown on these signs.

Sides of the road are soft and dangerous. Stay on the paved portion of the road.

Road entering on your left.

Combination of diamond and square sign means sharp right turn . . . and recommended speed not more than 20 miles per hour.

Approaching top of a steep hill. Slow down.

Road crossing this road.

A round sign like this means railroad crossing. Stop and look in both directions.

You are not allowed to park your car in this particular area.

Slow down or stop to give way to cars on the intersecting road.

A broken line defines traffic lanes. You may cross it, if doing so does not interfere with traffic.

A solid line separates opposing traffic lanes. You should keep in line, but you may cross it when conditions are favorable for you to do so. Be cautious.

A double solid line means that you must keep in lane and cannot cross this marking. It is most commonly found on hills and curves.

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Seattle, Wash. to Houston, Tex.	New York City, N.Y. to Reno, Nev.
Seattle to Dallas from the table ..... 2130 mi.	New York City to San Francisco from the table ..... 3045 mi.
Add Dallas to Houston from the chart ..... + 237 mi.	Subtract San Francisco to Reno from the chart ..... − 228 mi.
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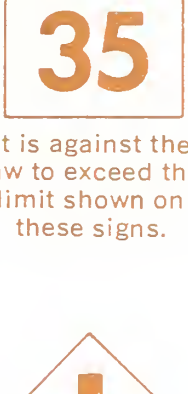
You are not allowed to make a "U" turn —a complete change of direction —on this road.

Eight-sided sign means STOP.



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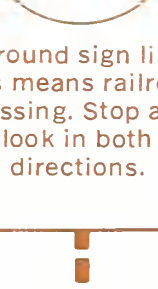

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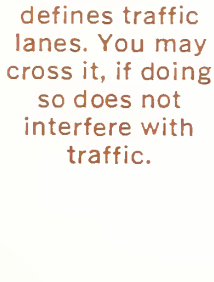

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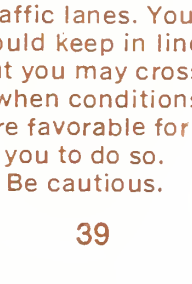

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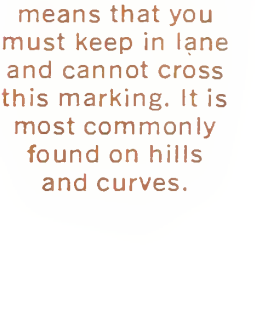

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Air Travel in the U.S.

Most international visitors to the United States arrive via the great "gateway" airports of Boston, New York, Chicago, Washington, Miami, Dallas/Forth Worth, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle. Transatlanic steam passengers generally dock in New York; transpacific liners head for Los Angeles and San Francisco. But no matter where or how you arrive, you'll be amazed at how quickly and efficiently you can then move on to the destination of your choice.

In a country as enormous as the United States, air travel is obviously the best way to cover large distances in the shortest possible time. Americans use planes as casually as you might use a bus—witness the "shuttle" flights between San Francisco and Los Angeles, or New York and Washington. These flights do not even require a reservation. Pasengers simply go to the airport, pick up a boarding pass for the next departure, and take a seat on the waiting jetliner. If the plane is full, another one is immediately brought to the gate. Payment is made on board.

Frequency of service along major inter-city routes is amazing. For example, there are over fifty flights a day between New York and Miami, with seasonal variations, providing almost round-the-clock service.

NOTE: Many domestic airlines, in association with international airlines, offer substantial discounts to overseas visitors, or special fares depending on what time of the day or days of the week you travel. Check with your carrier or travel agent **before** departure.

Rail Travel

After many years of decline, the passenger rail system of the United States is once again a thriving, nationwide enterprise. Since the creation in 1970 of AMTRAK—America's National Railroad Passenger Corporation—major lines have pooled their resources, modernized their rolling stock, and restored many of the fabulous trains of the past. Notable among these is the "Lake Shore Limited", which heads west from New York to Chicago, via Albany, Buffalo and the southern shores of the Great Lakes. It leaves every morning at 6:15 a.m. and arrives a 2:40 p.m. the following day, having sped through some magnificent scenery. Coach fare, one way: approx. $51.00.

Other notable AMTRAK trains include the spectacular "San Francisco Zephyr" from Denver through the Rockies and Sierra Nevada to the coast, leaving every day at 11:20 p.m. Coach fare, one way: approximately $82.00. Then there's the

"Palmetto" from New York to Savannah, Georgia (daily, 8:00 a.m., arriving 11:00 p.m., approximately $54.00) the "Coast Starlight" from Seattle to Los Angeles (daily, 11:50 a.m. arriving 6:55 p.m. following day, approximately $71.00).

"Coach" (tourist class) seats are adjustable recliners, rather like airline seats. Pullman cars, the American equivalent of European **wagon-lits**, offer private sleeping accommodations ranging from small cabins to spacious compartments, with fold-down seat/beds and private bathrooms. Fares are first-class, plus extra fees for the accommodation. On scenic trains like the Zephyr there are generally glass-domed observation cars.

NOTE: Trains are generally cheaper than airplanes over short distances, and whisk you from city centre to city centre.

U.S.A.RAIL PASS

One of the best travel bargains in the United States, this pass entitles you to unlimited, nationwide coach travel. Check with your travel agent concerning current rates.

Bus Travel

Visitors to the United States are generally impressed by the luxury, efficiency, and far-reaching connections of our great bus companies. These provide the most economical travel long-distance, anywhere in the country. Greyhound and Trailways are the two largest companies, but there are at least a hundred others that cover about 120,000 miles (193,000 km.) of superb highways. Cushioned in your reclining seat, with the quiet purr of high-powered engines and the smooth road surface lulling you to sleep, you might imagine yourself to be flying, were it not for the scenery rolling past the windows.

"See the U.S.A." PASS

This unlimited mileage pass is available to all foreign visitors from both Greyhound and Trailways and must be purchased in advance through your travel agent.

NOTE: There are no sleeping facilities on buses, but the seats permit comfortable dozing. All vehicles are air-conditioned, heated, and most are equipped with washrooms. Short stops are made every now and again at roadside restaurants. Buses travel overnight, too, allowing the thrifty to save on hotel accommodations; some even serve meals en route.

Motoring and Accommodations

One of the most enjoyable ways to discover the United States and meet Americans is to explore the country by car. The following section of this guide was prepared jointly by the United States Travel Service and the American Automobile Association with a view to providing helpful information on motoring in the U.S.A.

AAA has more than 900 affiliated automobile clubs and branches and over 18 million members. Alliance Internationale de Tourisme (AIT), Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), and the Federación Interamericana de Touring y Automovil-Clubs (FITAC) are pleased to offer reciprocal services to motorists from abroad whose clubs are affiliated with these international associations.

Much advance information on motoring in the U.S.A. can be obtained by persons who are members of clubs affiliated with FIA, AIT or FITAC simply by contacting their clubs before departure. Once in the United States, the affiliated member may call upon any one of the AAA's offices for advice and counsel on routes, points of interest, historical sites, accommodations and up-to-the minute road data. AAA club offices, often known by the name of the local motor club, are located in more than 900 cities and towns in the U.S. and Canada. The headquarters of The American Automobile Association is: 8111 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, Virginia 22042.

Due to the high mailing costs, the AAA cannot send travel materials to affiliated members in their home countries, and for this reason they are urged to visit their own club as a preliminary step. If you do not belong to an affiliated club, see your travel agent for United States destination information.

Government Jurisdictions

The United States Government, or Federal Government, has under its jurisdiction customs, import duties, and regulations on automobiles and other articles entering the United States, as well as the admission of visitors from other countries. The United States Government has no other jurisdiction with regard to motoring regulations. The 50 states and Washington, D.C. have jurisdiction over the licensing of automobiles, the granting of driving permits and the regulation of traffic. In addition to state traffic laws, local laws are enforced by county, township, city and town governments.

Customs Regulations

The United States Government does not charge any import duties on automobiles brought to this country by non-residents for touring purposes. A car brought from abroad by a bona fide tourist may remain in the United States for up to one year without Customs charge.

Summarizing the Law

A non-resident entering the United States may import an automobile free of charge for his personal use and for the transportation of his family and guests provided the vehicle is imported in connection with his arrival and owned by him or on order, prior to his departure.

After a period of one year, any vehicle, manufactured after January 1, 1968, must be in conformance with the United States Motor Vehicle Emissions and Safety Standards. A statement to this effect, from the original manufacturer, must accompany the car. Any vehicle not meeting the above requirements may not be sold in the U.S. It must be exported.

If a vehicle, meeting the above requirements, is sold here within one year, a duty of 3% of the appraised value of the car at the time of import must be paid. The seller must have in his possession either the title or the original bill of sale. The Customs value of a new car will be based on a value (which approximates the wholesale value) as determined by the examining Customs officer.

Since used cars reflect different degrees of wear and tear, there are no established allowances for use or depreciation. The Customs value of a used car depends solely upon actual examination: The value of a new car of identical year, reduced depending upon mileage, condition of body, engine, interior and the like.

The selling price in the country of exportation will be taken into consideration by Customs but may not coincide necessarily with the Customs appraised value. The prospective selling price in the United States has no bearing on the matter.

License Plates and Driving Licenses

Motorists from more than 120 countries, who are residents of those nations and who are bona fide tourists, may drive in the United States for a period of up to one year with their own national license plates (registration tags) and driving licenses. When a non-resident of the United

States accepts a job or attends school here, he loses tourist status and must obtain a state driving license and plates in accordance with local regulations.

These privileges are made possible by the Geneva Road Traffic Convention of 1949 and the 1943 Convention on the Regulation of Inter-American Automotive Traffic. If the name of your nation is not shown on the list below, you may be required to purchase license plates and obtain a driving license upon your arrival in the United States.

Countries having International Driving Agreements with the United States

Visitors to the United States from the following countries may use valid domestic registration plates and the driver's license of the residence for a period of one year from the date of their arrival:

Albania
Algeria
Andorra
Angola
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Bahamas
Barbados
Belgium
Belize
Botswana
Brazil
Bulgaria
Cambodia
Canada
Cape Verde Islands
Caymen Islands
Chile
China (Taiwan)
Colombia
Comoro Islands
Congo (Brazzaville)
Congo (Kinshasa)
Costa Rica
Cuba
Curacao, Netherlands Antilles
Cyprus
Czechoslovakia
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Fiji
Finland
France
French Polynesia & Tahiti
French Territory of Afars and The Issas
Germany Federal Republic
Ghana
Gibraltar
Greece
Grenada
Guadeloupe
Guatemala
Guernsey
Haiti
Honduras
Hong Kong
Hungary
India
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Ivory Coast
Jamaica
Japan
Jersey
Jordan
Korea, Republic of
Laos
Lebanon
Lesotho
Luxembourg
Malagasy Republic
Malawi
Malaysia
Mali
Malta
Martinique
Mauritius
Mexico
Monaco
Morocco
Mozambique
Nambia (South West Africa)
Netherlands
New Caledonia
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Niger
Norway
Panama
Papua & New Guinea
Paraguay
Peru
Phillipines
Poland
Portugal
Portuguese Guinea
Portuguese Timor
Rhodesia
Rumania
Rwanda
St. Lucia
St. Pierre & Miquelon
St. Vincent
San Marino
Sao Tome & Principe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Singapore
South Africa
Spain
Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
Surinam (Dutch Guiana)
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland
Syria
Thailand
Togo
Trinidad
Tunisia
Turkey
Uganda
United Kingdom
Uruguay
U.S.S.R.
Vatican City
Venezuela
Viet Nam
Yugoslavia
Zaire

Every visiting motorist from these ratifying countries must have an International Distinguishing Sign for his car to indicate his country and origin. It is advisable to carry an International Driving Permit, as authorized but not made obligatory by the 1943 or 1949 Conventions. This permit, which is printed in the official languages of the United Nations including English, is especially helpful to local police speaking only one language, and may be essential in case of emergency.

Driving licenses issued by any of the countries listed on page 45 are valid for driving personal vehicles and rented cars. As the privilege of driving in the United States with license plates of other nations is relatively new, we suggest that international motorists carry this booklet when touring here. It may be shown as your authority to anyone who makes inquiry in this country.

Requirements for Motorists from Countries without International Agreements with the U.S.

A motorist from any nation not a party to the 1949 Convention or the 1943 Inter-American Convention must, upon arrival, register his automobile and obtain a driver's license from the state of entry. Following is a list of major points of entry in the United States and corresponding addresses which the motorist should contact for registration and license information. In all the locations listed below, the minimum driving age is 18.

BOSTON
Registry of Motor Vehicles,
100 Nashua St., Boston, Mass.

LOS ANGELES
The Automobile Club of
Southern California,
2601 S. Figueroa St.,
Los Angeles, Calif. 90054.

MIAMI
East Florida Division, AAA,
4300 Biscayne Blvd.,
Miami, Florida 33137,
or Dept. of Motor Vehicles,
Tallahassee, Fla.

NEW YORK
Dept. of Motor Vehicles,
155 Worth St.,
New York, N.Y. 10013.

SACRAMENTO
Dept. of Motor Vehicles,
Box 1828,
Sacramento, Calif. 95809.

SAN FRANCISCO
California State
Automobile Association,
150 Van Ness Avenue,
San Francisco, Calif. 94101.

Insurance

In much of the United States insurance is compulsory. The minimum amounts of coverage required differ from state to state. If an automobile is not insured, all states require the owner of the vehicle to show financial responsibility. Some states have no-fault insurance laws in which each person's insurance company pays for damage to his automobile and injuries

to passengers in his vehicle.

Public liability insurance protects a motorist in case of personal injury to another person. Property damage insurance protects him in the event he damages the property, or automobile, of another person. Fire, theft, and comprehensive insurance protects the owner against all loss or damage, except collision, to his own car.

Collision insurance protects the motorist owning an automobile from negligence of another person or from his own negligence. The cost of such insurance is rather high and usually the motorist himself must pay the first $50 or $100 of the damages to his automobile.

International motorists are urged to buy insurance in their home country before coming to the United States. Not only is this currency-wise, it is of great benefit in avoiding delays in arranging insurance upon arrival.

However, AAA does provide American International Underwriters Corporation short-term car insurance for tourists to the U.S. This insurance is available to applicants 18 years of age and over for a period of one to 25 months. A visitor may obtain the insurance by contacting the AAA World Wide Travel, 8111 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, Virginia 22042.

The American International Corporation also offers short-term accident, hospitalization and baggage insurance. This company prefers to have policies written in their overseas offices.

Alternatively, the visiting motorist may apply to the New York Automobile Assigned Risk Plan, 733 Third Avenue, New York, N. Y. This agency, operated by the State of New York, would be able to refer the motorist to a specific insurance company which would provide coverage. The cost of this insurance is rather high and the premiums vary from time to time.

Highways in the United States

The United States has an extensive and up-to-date system of highways. Four-lane and six-lane highways are found where traffic is heavy, but most roads are all-weather, two-lane asphalt highways. It is possible to reach practically every village in the country by improved road. Highways are well numbered and well marked with directional signs. See signs on page 39.

Driving on Superhighways. The numerous controlled-access highways in the United States are known as interstates, turnpikes, expressways

or toll roads. These highways have at least two lanes of traffic in each direction, with a dividing strip between the opposing lanes. There are no traffic lights or cross traffic on such roads. The maximum speed limit in the United States is 55 miles per hour. Tolls of one to two cents a mile are charged on toll roads and turnpikes.

Driving on controlled-access highways is different: access is limited, so plan your exit points and rest stops well in advance. If you pass your exit, go on to the next one. Do **not** slow down, stop or back up. If you have trouble with your car, pull completely off the road. Raise the car hood and hang a white cloth from the driver's side to signal for help.

Driving Regulations

Each of the fifty states in this country makes its own traffic rules and regulations, so it is impossible to state the detailed rules for each jurisdiction. However, the general rules are the same and a reasonably careful driver should not encounter any difficulty.

Rule of the Road—Drive to the Right. The rule of the road in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Latin America is to the right, as it is in all European countries except Britain and Ireland. All cars manufactured in the U.S. have steering wheels on the left to facilitate driving to the right of the highway, but there is no regulation as to where the steering wheel must be located.

Speed. The speed limit in cities and congested areas is usually 20 to 25 miles an hour, while the speed limit on open roads is 55 miles per hour. Usually there are signs indicating the speed limit.

In most areas there is a strict enforcement of speed laws to prevent fast and reckless driving, accidents and loss of life. Motorists are cautioned to keep within set speed limits at all times.

Accidents. Most accidents, especially those involving personal injury or property damage, must be reported to the nearest police department office at once.

Traffic Lights. In the cities and in some rural areas traffic is controlled by traffic lights, or electric signals, of green for proceed, amber or yellow or orange for caution and red for stop. Stop, Slow and Caution signs should be strictly observed. Some states' laws permit the motorist to turn right at a red light after stopping.

General Driving Rules. The following are general rules of the road and driving hints that should be followed at all times:

Passing on curves, at intersections and near the top of hills is prohibited.

Passing school buses loading or unloading children is prohibited, whether the bus is on the same side of the road as your car or on the opposite side.

Reduced speed limits are in effect in all school zones.

Parking on the highway in rural areas is prohibited; pull completely off road if you wish to stop.

Keep well to the right of the road at all times when driving on two lane roads.

Always signal when you turn, stop or change lanes. Use hand signals if your car is not equipped with electric signals.

Always lock your car when it is unattended.
Never pick up hitchhikers.

Renting Automobiles in the United States

Rental cars are available in most cities at airports, rental offices in hotels and car rental agencies. Local AAA clubs will be glad to suggest reliable agencies, or look in the classified section of the telephone directory under Car Rentals or Automobile Rentals. Some major rental companies will rent to tourists 18 years of age; others require drivers to be 21, and in some locations 25 years old.

Cars may be rented for $10 to $30 per day plus 10 cents to 30 cents per mile. Weekly rates which include a certain amount of free mileage are approximately $69 to $140 for small cars and $132 to $180 for larger cars. Prices vary from area to area. Monthly rates are available on request at a few of the rental companies. One-way rentals in which a car can be rented in one major city and left with the same company in another city are available from several of the agencies, occasionally without extra charge. A daily rate will be charged unless special plans (i.e. weekly, monthly, one-way) are requested at time of rental.

Prices include oil, maintenance and liability insurance. State and local taxes are additional. Gasoline is extra in most rental plans. When paying cash for the rental, the estimated rental charge plus a deposit are required at the time of rental. The amount over the total rental charge is refunded. Check with your travel agent for any discounts that may be given to foreign visitors. Credentials such as a passport, driver's license from your home country, or return ticket may need to be presented in order to pay cash.

Car rentals can be charged provided an acceptable credit card is used. Rental cars may not be taken into Mexico without written permission from the rental company.

As directions and routes within cities may often be confusing, persons wishing to see the points of interest in and around a city may find it more desirable to take one of the many sightseeing tours recommended by AAA clubs, hotels, or your travel agent.

Purchase of Automobiles in the United States

New automobiles may be purchased anywhere in the United States. Most cars are closed models, sedans, coupes or station wagons. Smaller compact cars are available, as are many imported automobiles. Most cars manufactured in the United States have greater horsepower than those manufactured elsewhere and usually operate between 10 and 20 miles on each gallon of gasoline.

When a **new or used car** is purchased, the buyer should be sure to receive a title and a bill of sale for the vehicle. He must also pay state taxes and delivery charges, register the car and buy insurance for the vehicle immediately upon purchase. A permanent home address in the United States may be required to register a vehicle. For specific information contact the Department of Motor Vehicles in the state in which the car is being purchased. These conditions apply even if the vehicle is bought by a non-resident for subsequent exportation.

Used cars may be purchased in many cities from reliable car dealers at prices considerably less than new cars. Prices will vary depending upon the age of the car, miles driven, its make, size and condition, as well as upon the used car market.

Automobiles are not sold with a guarantee to repurchase at the time the motorist leaves the United States. Also, a buyer should remember that new and used vehicles depreciate considerably as soon as they are removed from the car lot. There is a market for used cars. However, reselling a used car often requires weeks, during which the owner must remain in the same location, unless he is willing to take a considerable loss.

Gasoline and Oil

Gasoline and service stations are located throughout the country and, except at some places in the mountains or in sparsely populated sections in

the West, motor fuel is readily obtainable.

Three grades of gasoline are usually available: regular, with an octane rating of about 94; non-leaded, which must be used in most vehicles manufactured in recent years; and high-test, also called premium or ethyl, gasoline which has an octane rating of about 100 and is used in higher compression engines. Diesel fuel is also available. Any car dealer or rental car agency will tell you which fuel is best for the models he sells or rents. Gasoline blended with alcohol is not generally available in the United States.

Prices depend on the locality and the amount of state tax, which varies from approximately 6¢ to 10¢ per gallon. Average prices, including the federal tax of 4¢ per gallon, are 60¢ to 65¢ for regular, 63¢ to 69¢ for non-leaded, 66¢ to 70¢ for high test and 55¢ to 65¢ for diesel. Competing oil companies sell the same grade of gasoline at about the same price in each locality. The above prices may increase considerably during periods when the general supply is limited.

Gasoline is sold by the American gallon of four quarts, which is one-fifth smaller than the British imperial gallon. Four liters amount to slightly more than one American gallon.

Motor oil can be purchased at any service station for about 95¢ to $1.50 a quart. Prices include the one cent federal tax.

Travel Costs

It would be well to estimate as total expenses for two people, based on 300 miles of highway travel in one day, $75 to $105 per day, depending upon how luxurious the accommodations. This would include gasoline, oil, meals, lodging and tips. Prices on such items as cigarettes may vary slightly from place to place due to differences in state and local taxes. Included in this estimate is the cost of operating a car at about $20 per 300 miles of travel, which would cover gasoline, oil and an occasional small repair.

Camping and Trailering

Outdoor camping and trailering (caravaning) have reached a high point in the United States and modern camping areas have kept pace with this growth. Public campgrounds are available in National and State Parks and Forests. There are also a number of privately-owned campsites throughout the country. Many of these have electricity and water hookups for trailers. Camping along the side of highways in the United States is prohibited. Camping is permitted in designated areas

only. The AAA publishes camping guides that list campsites, facilities and fees. There are also camping guides for sale at book stores across the country.

Average prices for two persons spending one night at campsites in the U.S. are: public area campsites, from free of charge to $4; privately operated campgrounds from $4.50 to $9; resort area campsites from $8 to $13.

Tents, tent trailers, pick-up campers and camper buses may be rented or purchased in major cities. Rental prices vary with the type of equipment, location and length of time for which it is rented. When purchasing a recreational vehicle, the buyer must follow the same procedures explained in "Purchase of Automobiles in the United States".

Entering Canada and Mexico

The international motorist should not experience any trouble entering Canada or Mexico if his documents are in order. Carnets and triptyques for automobiles are not required. Since the entrance requirements described below are subject to frequent change, it would be wise for the tourist to check with the Mexican or Canadian consul in his country and obtain the necessary documents there before leaving for the United States.

Canada. At the Canadian border a simple form is filled out, giving complete information about your automobile. There is no charge for this form. The registration card for the car or other evidence of ownership must be produced. If the car is rented, a copy of the contract is required.

Mexico. Before entering Mexico, it is advisable to contact one of the AAA Border Offices in Brownsville or Laredo, Texas, or in Nogales, Arizona. Offices of the Automobile Club of Southern California can also assist members with arrangements for Mexican travel.

Counselors in these offices will be able to help with arrangements, automobile insurance and answer questions that arise. They will also furnish members of affiliated clubs with a special AAA guide, **Mexico and Central America.**

An automobile entry permit is issued without charge at the Mexican border. The required visitor's tourist card, issued separately or with a visa if one is necessary, is stamped to show that the motorist entered with an automobile. If the car is registered in another person's or company's

name, it is necessary to secure an affidavit from the owner authorizing the use of the car for a trip in Mexico.

Both the entry permit and tourist card must be surrendered to Mexican border officials at the exit point. To re-enter the United States, a passport and visa are necessary.

NOTE: The visitor should check with a local automobile association in his home country concerning the requirements for driving documents in Canada and Mexico.

The Pan American Highway. The Pan American Highway system, when completed, will stretch from Alaska to southern South America. At present, it is practical to motor as far south as the Panama Canal Zone. There is a 150-mile stretch of the route in southern Panama and northern Colombia, known as the Darien Gap, on which construction was begun early in 1972, with completion scheduled for 1981. Although it is possible to transport an automobile by ship to connect with the completed portions of the highway in South America, this is both inconvenient and expensive.

Highways in Mexico are generally good, although few of them compare to the superhighways in the United States. A huge, government-sponsored road-building program makes it possible to reach almost every section of the country by paved road.

The Alaska Highway. Rushed to completion as a military lifeline in 1942, the Alaska Highway traverses more than 1,400 miles of wilderness from Dawson Creek, British Columbia to Delta Junction, Alaska. Except for the first 100 paved miles, the highway is a two-lane, gravel road traveling through sparsely settled regions. Anchorage, the largest city in Alaska, lies another 324 miles from Tok via the Glenn Highway. Allow at least a month for a visit to Alaska by car.

Local Transportation. Local buses provide convenient service in most cities and towns. Taxis are available at airports, railway and bus terminals and hotels, or may be hailed from the street. Fares vary according to time, distance traveled or zonal rates. Subways, or metros, are rapid transit underground railways found in large cities. Maps of the subway system are usually posted at the underground stops and inside the cars.

Police Officers. Uniformed police officers are always glad to assist motorists in finding their way locally if they should become lost.

Repairs to Foreign Automobiles. Foreign automobiles brought to the U.S. for touring purposes should be in first-class condition to avoid as far as possible making major repairs. Parts for automobiles not specifically manufactured to meet U.S. standards may differ from foreign makes produced in this country. Therefore, spare parts for major repairs may not be readily available. However, in cities, at least one automobile dealer usually sells and services one or more makes of the more popular foreign cars.

Restrooms. All the better gasoline service stations and garages have free restrooms or toilet facilities. Public restrooms are available in transportation terminals, department stores, museums, hotels and most parks.

Time of Year for Motoring. Except in remote areas in the North and West, most American roads are accessible the entire year. However, the best touring season is during the spring, summer and fall for all except the southern part of the country, where weather is nice year round.

Where to Stay

With the exception of charming eighteenth- and nineteenth-century inns in the East, some exotic adobe ranch-type taverns along the Southern border and the restored pioneer hotels of the mountainous West, American accommodations are usually modern. Cleanliness and managerial efficiency can be expected everywhere, as well as private bathrooms, air-conditioning and central-heating in most establishments, whether old or new. Although some of America's luxury hotels are as expensive as any in the world, you will probably be surprised by the moderate cost of the average hotel room, not to mention the real bargains to be found in motels and guest homes.

Hotels

Virtually all hotel rooms, you'll find, have a private bathroom with toilet and tub or shower; soap and an ample supply of towels and face cloths are always provided. Rooms are usually equipped with radio and television. Hundreds of American hotels have staff members who speak Spanish, French, German, or Japanese. Ask your travel agent for details. Reception on arrival is informal and simple. Guests register at the desk, are greeted by a room clerk, then taken to their rooms by the bellman, who also carries luggage. He is the only member

of the reception staff you need to tip (see tipping section). Services are requested by telephone, not by ringing a bell. Typically, in a large hotel, you can dial "Room Service" to order food or beverages, "Valet Service" for laundry, dry cleaning or shoe shine, and "Maid Service" for things like extra blankets. In most smaller hotels, just dial "0" and ask the operator for the service you want.

Hotel room prices vary considerably—the current range is from $15.00 or $20.00 a day and up per person. Hotel prices do not include meals, except in the case of resort-type hotels, and usually service charge is not included in your bill. Children can sleep in the same room as their parents on portable "cots" (actually very comfortable beds, set up by hotel staff) at a reduced rate or free. If you plan to stay a week or longer, check to see if the hotel offers weekly rates.

Most hotels have their own restaurant or dining rooms, bar, coffee shop, travel desk, barber and beauty salon right on the premises. In larger cities, a theatre ticket office is usually located in the lobby. If you want to eat inexpensively, try your hotel's coffee shop. You'll probably find it's a cornucopia of elaborate snacks and "overstuffed" sandwiches, as well as salads, pies, cakes, and a variety of drinks. Many hotel coffee shops offer the same hot dishes from the same kitchen as the hotel restaurant does—and at lower prices.

"Check-out" or departure time is posted in every room—it's usually between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. If you stay beyond the posted time you may be charged an additional day's rate. Should you wish to occupy the room a while longer, for some reason, you can usually arrange this in advance by speaking to the assistant manager or front desk clerk. But in cases where this cannot be arranged, the hotel will gladly hold your luggage in storage for you if you want to go out and pick it up later in the day.

Motels

These informal, standardized, and efficiently-run establishments are ubiquitous in the United States, and can be found in the hundreds along major highways, around airports and stations, and even in the heart of big cities. Wherever they are, they always provide free parking—in most cases, you can leave your car right outside the door to your room. Few motels have bellmen, so plan on carrying your own luggage from car to room. Many motels are every bit as elegant, comfortable, and

well-equipped as the most modern hotels. Many have bars, fine restaurants and coffee shops for casual meals and breakfast. If the motel does not have a restaurant, there are always restaurants nearby. Most rooms are furnished with television. Even less expensive motels often have a swimming pool. The price for rooms in motels is usually slightly less than for hotels. "Budget motels"—clean but spartan establishments shorn of all unnecessary trimmings—offer thousands of rooms at less than $12.00 a night for a single.

Reservations

Reservations should be made in advance for hotels and motels in major U.S. cities, as well as accommodations in National Parks and resorts. Your travel agent can make these advance reservations for you. In the United States, you can make your own reservations by taking advantage of the free nationwide, computerized booking services operated by most large hotel and motel chains. Look in the classified telephone directory under the name of the hotel chain for a toll-free telephone number. If your plans change, or you are delayed en route, or if you change the date of your arrival, please call via the same system to cancel, postpone, or rebook. That way, if you can't use it, the room reserved for you can be made available to other travellers. Telephone ahead even if you are slightly delayed, since many places automatically cancel your reservation if they do not see or hear from you by 6:00 p.m.

Things to Remember

Always check to see that your room is double locked when you leave it, then hand the key in at the front desk while you are out. At night, double lock the door or use the chain provided for added security.

Never leave your shoes outside the door for polishing; hotels and motels in America do not offer this service. For information on shoeshines, ask the telephone operator, the front desk clerk, or the bell captain (head porter).

Before using electric shavers or electrical appliances, it's wise to consult the front desk about local current. This varies in some regions and may ruin your electrical appliance unless you have a converter.

Don't hesitate to drink water from the tap—it is purified by law, thanks to stringent health regulations universal in the United States.

Tourist Homes and Guest Homes

This kind of accommodation is generally available in smaller towns and scenic resort areas. You'll be able to find it while motoring by looking for signs outside private homes reading "Tourists", "Rooms", etc. Many hosts serve meals. No reservations are required, and prices are of course lower than in most hotels and motels. Note: private bathrooms are not always provided.

Dude Ranches

These are either full time resorts or genuine ranches operated as informal resorts, while carrying on everyday business. Generally they are cattle ranches with sophisticated facilities for handling large numbers of guests. Organized activities include horseback riding, "cook-outs", rodeo excursions, and, in Western regions such as Colorado and Montana, tours of the local ghost towns. Rates vary widely according to location and facilities. They are usually calculated on a weekly basis, all meals included. (Children approx. half price.) Consult your travel agent, or write to: Dude Ranch Assoc., S. Laramie Via Tie Siding, Wyo. 82084.

Family Ranches and Farms

These establishments are simpler and less commercial than dude ranches. Across the nation, rural families offer rooms—sometimes, whole wings of their ranch houses—to paying guests. The countryside round about is free for you to roam at will (some farms are as large as 15,000 acres). You will be invited to eat with the family and join in their social activities. For further information, write to: Farm and Ranch Vacations at 36 East 57th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022 or see your travel agent.

Hostels

There are 120 Youth Hostels in the United States open to members of all international youth hostel organizations. They are located primarily in the Northeast and in California. The charge is from $1.00 to $2.00 a night. For information inquire at your own local organization, or write: National Headquarters, American Youth Hostels, Inc. National Campus, Delaplane, Va. 22025.

YMCA and YWCA

These are found in all major cities. They provide accommodations at much lower costs than most hotels and motels, are usually centrally located, and some have swimming pools and gymnasiums. Reserve well in advance, because Y's, as they are known, are very popular. Write directly to the branch in the city you plan to visit.

American Way of Life

How to Feel at Home

The American Way of Life may be different from yours, but you'll find you quickly adapt to our ways just as millions of other visitors have done in the past. Americans are used to getting what they want fast, and when they don't they "holler" until they do. If you find yourself in a similar situation, don't be shy!

A few things which seem natural and ordinary to us, but will probably intrigue or puzzle you:

1. You're expected to use the same knife at breakfast, to eat your ham and eggs with—and then spread jelly or marmalade on your toast! No explanation exists for this curious practice. An extra knife will of course be provided if you ask for it.

2. Those plumes of mist that dance in the streets of big cities like New York emanate from underground hot-water pipes, steam tunnels and subway heating systems. It is quite safe, if not entirely comfortable, to walk through them.

3. There is no national radio station in the United States. Every large city has dozens of independent stations whose formats range from twenty-four hour "all-news-all-the-time" to rock disc-jockey shows and classical music. Even in rural areas there are three or four or maybe more stations to listen in to — flipping your car radio dial frequently will keep you amused.

4. Although we are a fast-moving people, we like to remain stationary on escalators, and are puzzled by Europeans who expect us to move out of the way, or stand on the right.

5. This great country, so abundant in so many things, is strangely lacking in public conveniences (called "comfort stations" here). Do what we do, and seek out facilities in restaurants, department stores, hotels, museums, and railroad stations. All you have to do is look around for wordless signs designating a male or female figure, or simply ask for "the men's room" or "ladies' room".

NOTE: A "lavatory" in America is a small alcove equipped only with a hand basin.

6. In restaurants, Americans think nothing of leaving unwanted food on their plates, to be tossed away as garbage, or—less wastefully—wrapped up in a "doggie bag" for later consumption. Waiters consider this quite normal, so if you can't finish your huge and succulent steak, feel free to request a doggie bag for yourself.

Tipping

Tipping as a reward for service is common throughout the U.S.A. Unless tips are included in your package tour price, you will be expected to tip when service merits.

It is customary to tip from 15% to 20% of the bill for meals served in hotels and restaurants. Ordinarily, no tips are required in cafeterias where a person serves himself. At hotels, moderate tips of 35 to 50 cents per bag or suitcase handled are in order for bellboys or porters. Tip the doorman, who unloads your car in relation to any service he performs; you need not tip the chambermaids unless your stay is several nights. Do not tip the desk clerk.

Most hotel bills in the United States do **not** have a service charge added to cover gratuities. As stated above, tips are in order for any special service.

On trains, no tips are expected from passengers traveling in day coaches, or second-class, except when they eat in the dining car. Passengers traveling in Pullman cars (sleeping or parlor cars) usually tip the porter of their car when they leave the train one dollar per night. Passengers who eat in the dining cars usually tip the waiter 15% to 25%. Of course, the porter who carries your baggage at the station receives a tip, usually 35 cents a bag.

Stewardesses and other airline employees are not tipped. However, the porter who carries your bag at the airport should be tipped. Taxi drivers are usually given a tip of 15% to 20%.

In barbershops, men tip for a haircut, a shave and for a shoeshine. A woman tips her hairdresser and the assistant who washes her hair. Tips may be slightly lower than 15% to 20% in small towns and suburban areas.

American Food

Generally speaking, food in the United States makes up in freshness and copiousness what it lacks in gastronomic subtlety, although some of the world's most sophisticated restaurants may be found in most major cities. The most typically American fare is a big, tender, "marbled" steak (cut from corn-fed cattle) plus a big, baked Idaho potato, split and smothered with butter or sour cream and chives, a big dish of fresh salad, and a big cup or two of coffee. Steak dinners are available with rather monotonous regularity from one end of the country to the other. Dessert tends

to be a slice of pie, preferably topped with something wobbly, like whipped or ice cream. Sauces are not popular, except the perennial "jus" that accompanies roast ribs of beef — another great favorite. Bread, rolls, and buns are invariably white and taste slightly sweet. Genuinely fresh fish is not easy to find in interior regions—except the Great Lakes area—(often the word fresh on menus is a misnomer meaning frozen) but there is a magnificent abundance of it all along the Pacific and Atlantic sea coasts.

The average quality of American beef is far superior to that of other countries. When ordering a steak or hamburger (double-minced beef patties) make sure you specify how you want it cooked—"rare", "medium rare", "medium", or "well-done". Note: in the Midwest, steak tends to be grilled longer than elsewhere. Chicken in the United States is widely available and very inexpensive—particularly in "Southern fried" style, encrusted with batter and bread crumbs, at fast food restaurants. You might also try some superb American turkey, served usually cold all year round in delicatessen sandwiches, and in its classic whole roast form during the Thanksgiving season.

Superlative seafood specialties include Maine lobsters (the world's finest); New England clams; New York shad and shad roe (a springtime treat); Long Island scallops; Chesapeake Bay oysters; Florida baked red snapper; Pacific abalone; San Francisco dungeness crab; and salmon from the high cold streams of the Northwest. All these are best when cooked simply with butter and lemon juice: avoid pretentious sauces which muffle the flavor and elevate the price.

A word on American ice cream. Connoisseurs are agreed that this voluptuously rich dessert is unsurpassed anywhere. The two "ice cream capitals" are Boston and Philadelphia, where on any summer afternoon the entire population seems to be carrying great, dripping double scoops, every one a different colour and flavour.

American Restaurants

Thanks to the unique variety of this country's immigrant heritage, you will find a greater range of "ethnic restaurants" in our major cities than anywhere else in the world. In places like New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and Los Angeles you could eat out every night for a month on totally different cuisines. Even Chinese restaurants subdivide into such categories as Mandarin, Hunan, Szechuan, and Cantonese, not to mention Cuban-

Chinese houses where the cuisines of the Caribbean and the Orient mix in mystifying combination. At the top of the scale, gastronomically speaking, there are magnificent French restaurants specializing in **haute cuisine,** ranging down to homely Italian **trattorias,** Mexican **chili** bars, and Middle Eastern **pita** wagons on the streets.

Delicatessens are a favourite haven for Americans who want a quick yet substantial lunch. Here you can sit on padded bar stools at a counter laden with glass-enclosed meats and salads. The most ordinary "deli" can serve up thirty or forty different sandwiches, bulging with cold roast beef, pastrami, turkey, boiled or baked ham, or a combination of these meats, and a variety of cheeses. "Ham and Swiss" is a popular combination, but if you want genuine Gruyere you must ask for "Swiss Swiss". Breads include long Italian rolls, whole-wheat slices, sour dough (a delicious West Coast specialty) and rye loaf flavored with caraway seeds.

Cafeterias

Unlike European cafeterias, these inexpensive restaurants allow you to choose your own main dish (often from a bank of glass-door pigeonholes) and assemble on a tray all the side-helpings you want. You pay at a turntable before exiting from the "feed line", and then choose where to sit. The average lunch costs $2.00; dinner $2.50 to $3.00.

Coffee Shops

See "Hotel" section (page 54). These fast-food establishments are also found outside hotels; in large city centres, you'll find at least one on every block. Very few serve liquor.

Drugstores

The unlikely juxtaposition of a food-counter and medicine bottles does not seem as peculiar to Americans as it may do to you. The "corner drugstore" is a favourite place for breakfast and snacks any time of the day, and through till late at night. **Note:** breakfast here is always a bargain. Fruit juice, eggs, ham or sausage, toast and unlimited coffee are available for as little as 99 cents inclusive. Prices increase after 11 a.m.

American Wines

Although the United States is far from a wine-drinking country—coffee or "Coke" is considered a perfectly respectable accompaniment to the everyday meal—the consumption of wine has enormously increased in the last decade, along with quadrupled production of domestic vintages. As regards

the quality of American wine, more and more travellers have discovered with delight that it is very high indeed. One internationally respected authority has gone so far as to state that American wines are, on average, far superior to those of Europe. The greatest American vintages, such as the Reserve Cabernet Sauvignons of California's Napa Valley, or the Lake Erie champagnes of Ohio, are expensive and almost impossible to obtain outside of their immediate growing localities; but this should not deter you from trying some of the reasonably-priced bottles ($3.00 to $5.00 in stores, $6.00 to $10.00 in restaurants) sold everywhere.

Among the best such buys are the fruity red Zinfandels and magnificent full-bodied whites such as Pinot Chardonnay and Fume Blanc, all from California. Cheaper "jug" wines, such as burgundy and chablis, are ideal for picnics, and can be quite delicious.

New York State makes good champagne from a blend of native **(labrusca)** and European-type **(vinifera)** grapes. Wines made solely from the native grape, such as Catawba and Concord, are enjoyed in rural areas, but they have an extremely unusual wild flavor which most Europeans do not like. Conversely, some visitors adore them.

Beer and Spirits

American beer is inexpensive (around 35 cents a can), light, and can be bought in supermarkets by the six-pack, as well as in bars and restaurants by the glass or bottle. It is always served chilled. More highly-flavored and highly-priced imported beers can be found in delicatessens and liquor stores.

"Hard liquor", as Americans tend to call spiritous drinks, is generally drunk in the evening, apart from the ubiquitous lunchtime martini (neat gin or vodka flavored with a splash of vermouth) or "Scotch on the Rocks". There is a tremendous variety of cocktails to be had in bars and saloons, including such fanciful combinations as the Whiskey Sour, the Mint Julep, and the Bloody Mary. Ask the barman to describe them. The basic spirits drunk by Americans are Scotch Whiskey; Bourbon and Rye Whiskey (with an "e"); and gin and vodka.

Liquor Laws

The labyrinthine rules and regulations, which affect when and where you can drink what, vary not only from state to state, but often from county to county. You may find yourself in a "dry" area where only beer can be sold; or you may have to register in a hotel or motel before being served drinks in a special club which requires signing in

a guest book. Again, you can order liquor round the clock in some areas, and drink it anywhere you like. On the whole, however, it is never difficult to enjoy a civilized drink in the evening or a bottle of wine with dinner. A convenient way of finding out in advance about local drinking rules is to refer to regional guidebooks such as those listed on pages 28 and 29.

Shopping

Needless to say, the United States is a shopper's paradise. The "sale" is a way of life here, occurring in big retail stores several times a year—often at unlikely moments. So-called January sales, for instance, can begin immediately after Christmas, and summer clothes go on sale in late spring or early summer on the grounds that prompt, regular shoppers will have bought theirs already.

Department stores in America are basically the same as department stores the world over—only bigger and more varied in their selection of merchandise. **Supermarkets** carry everything from melons to sets of encyclopedias. **Drug stores** sell banana splits, greeting cards, cosmetics, vitamins, clocks and 1001 other items. **Shopping centres** in suburban and rural areas are vast communities of stores under one roof, sharing one tremendous parking lot. Often, special events, such as art shows and antique shows, are held in major shopping malls. Many of these complexes have their own entertainment centres.

Shopping assistance to foreign visitors is furnished by hundreds of big stores across the country. Multilingual aides, summoned by the Information Desk on the ground floor, help you select merchandise, and advise you how to ship or mail it home. (Remember to ask about possible customs charges at your embassy or consulate.) Store hours: usually 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. all week, with "late hours" on one or two evenings. Some states permit Sunday openings as well.

Mail

Post Office hours in the United States vary from 24 hours a day in central, big-city branches to the 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. schedule normal in smaller cities and towns. On Saturdays post offices only open half a day, if they open at all. Postal services only are performed here: for telegraph facilities, see below. One service helpful to foreign visitors is General Delivery. If you do not know where you will be staying in any particular town, simply have your mail addressed to your name, c/o General

Delivery, at the main post office there. You must pick up such mail personally. Stamps can be purchased in hotels, drugstores, terminals, etc., as well as post offices, for a small extra charge. Red, white and blue mail boxes are prominent on city streets. Sample current postage rates:

Airmail letters to Europe—31 cents (½ oz.)*
Airmail letters to Central and S. America—25 cents (½ oz.)
Letters within USA, Canada—13 cents (1 oz.)
Airmail post cards within USA, Canada—14 cents each
Airmail post cards to all other countries—21 cents each
Air letters to all countries—22 cents each

*1 oz. = 28.35 grams

Telegrams

Your hotel switchboard permits you to dictate domestic telegrams and overseas cablegrams on the phone, or you could go to the nearest office of Western Union, an organization which specializes in telegraphic communications world wide. You can ask what the message will cost before it is sent. The hotel will add it to your bill.

Telephones

Public telephones are found everywhere: in transportation terminals, hotel lobbies, drugstores, tobacco shops, most restaurants, garages, pavement kiosks, and even along highways. The "dial" system is universal. Telephone directories are found beside almost every phone, except those in exterior locations. There are two kinds of directories: the General, which has alphabetical surname listings, and the Classified ("Yellow Pages"), which groups businesses and services in alphabetical categories. To use a coin telephone, simply follow the clear instructions posted on every box. Local calls cost from 10 cents to 20 cents each. When making long-distance calls from public phones, dial "0" for operator assistance. Be sure to have plenty of change, in particular 25-cent coins. When calling from your hotel, the switchboard operator will either place your call for you, or tell you how to dial it yourself, directly from your room. You will be billed for all outside calls and pay for them when you check out. To place a call outside the U.S.A., dial "0" and ask for the Overseas Operator.

Telephone Rates

Telephone calls in the United States can be dialed directly, which is considerably cheaper than having the operator do it for you. It is also cheaper to call after 5 p.m. and cheaper still if you call after 11 p.m. Here are some typical rates for calls from New York to Los Angeles:

	Day	Evening (5 p.m.-11 p.m.)	Night (11 p.m.-8 a.m.)
Direct Dial (1 min.)	.54	.35	.21
Direct Dial (3 min.)	1.30	.85	.53
Operator Assistance	2.25	2.25	2.25

Calls to Europe and South America vary according to the country you are calling. A typical rate to Europe is $9.00 for three minutes, and to South America slightly more. The Overseas Operator will tell you about periods when cheaper rates apply, and also advise if you can dial direct and thus save money.

Laundry and Dry Cleaning

These services are extremely fast and moderate in cost in the United States. Some hotels offer "same day service" for a small extra charge. Cheapest and quickest of all are the numerous automatic laundries in every town, where for fifty cents you can wash and tumble dry a whole load of laundry in half an hour. Drying costs another 25 cents.

Photography

Film for any type of camera is generally available throughout the United States. To have your film developed, simply leave it at a camera shop, drug store, or newsstand advertising this service. If you are moving on to another city, ask for "pre-paid processing." This means you pay for the developing and postage in advance; the pictures will be sent directly to your next address.

Health

If you ever need a doctor, ask your hotel to call one for you. Names of reliable physicians will be furnished by the superintendent of any public hospital, but you may prefer to ask your embassy or consulate for its own approved list of doctors.

Other Emergencies

Should you be at your wit's end over any small or major problem, do what many Americans do in a fix. Dial "0" on any phone, and that helpful angel, the telephone operator, will answer immediately. She probably won't offer personal assistance, but she will be able to connect you, within seconds, to somebody who can.

Language

The official language of the United States is English. Outside of regions like Southern California, parts of Texas and New Mexico, metropolitan New York, and Southern Florida and Puerto Rico, where Spanish is widely spoken, Americans do not have an extensive knowledge of foreign languages—witness our extraordinary pronunciations of such place names as Milan, Ohio and Versailles, Kentucky. However, we make up for this by a genuine interest in every overseas visitor, and by a variety of linguistic facilities designed to make him comfortable.

Interpreters

Multi-lingual personnel are on hand at 12 major international gateway airports, and in some big hotels and department stores. In many cities, especially larger ones, you will find signs in store windows announcing what languages are spoken inside. The Visitor's Bureau in any large city will help you locate an interpreter. Do not be afraid of looking lost in small communities; someone will find someone who can at least understand. People in the United States are extremely helpful.

Travel Phone USA

You may get telephone interpreter service or answers to most travel questions in English, Spanish, French, German and Japanese by picking up the nearest telephone anywhere in the United States (except Alaska), and dialing 1-800-255-3050, toll free. In the state of Kansas only, dial 1-800-332-4350. A Visit USA Information Desk, staffed by personnel speaking the above languages, will give you assistance with such questions as the location of any major tourist attraction, the hours it is open and the cost of admission; which airlines and bus lines service which cities; which hotels have interpreter facilities and so on. In addition to giving you specific answers, the personnel manning the desk will do their best to give you information on where to call or whom to see for guided tours, where to buy auto insurance, and whom to call if you lose your passport.

Comparison Size Chart

Men's								
Suits:	U.S.A.	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
	Metric	46	48	50	52	54	56	58
Shirts:	U.S.A.	14	14½	15	15½	16	16½	17
	Metric	36	37	38	39	41	42	43
Shoes:	U.S.A.	6½	7	8	9	10	10½	11
	Metric	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
Women's								
Suits & Dresses:	U.S.A.	32	34	36	38	40	42	44
	Metric	40	42	44	46	48	50	52
Misses Suits/ Dresses:	U.S.A.		10	12	14	16	18	20
	Metric		38	40	42	44	46	48
Stock-ings:	U.S.A.		8	8½	9	9½	10	10½
	Metric		0	1	2	3	4	5
Shoes:	U.S.A.		5½	6	7	7½	8½	9
	Metric		36	37	38	39	40	41

Lengths

1 yard = 0.914 metres
1 foot = 30.48 centimetres
1 inch = 2.54 centimetres
0.62 miles = 1 kilometre
1.09 yards = 1 metre
3.28 feet = 1 metre
0.39 inches = 1 centimetre

Weights

1 pound = 0.4536 kilograms
1 ounce = 28.35 grams

Liquids

1 gallon = 3.785 litres
1 quart = 0.946 litres
1 pint = 0.473 litres

Distances

Miles	1	5	50	100	1000
Kilometres	1.609	8.045	80.45	160.9	1609

Public Holidays

New Year's Day, January 1
*__Washington's Birthday,__ third Monday in Febuary
Memorial Day, last Monday in May
Independence Day, July 4
Labour Day, first Monday in September
*__Columbus Day,__ second Monday in October
Veteran's Day, November 11
Thanksgiving Day, fourth Thursday in November
Christmas Day, December 25

(*Not observed by all the states on the day indicated. Other days are: Feb. 22 for **George Washington's Birthday**, October 12 for **Columbus Day.)**

On these days, all post offices and banks and some museums, libraries, stores, restaurants and nightclubs are closed. In addition, various states and regions observe other holidays, such as **Lincoln's Birthday** (Feb. 12), which is widely observed in the North, and widely neglected in the South.

Useful Words

American	English
apartment	flat
balcony	gallery
bathroom	lavatory
booth	kiosk
collect	reverse charges
cookies	biscuits
drug store	chemist
elevator	lift
fabric	material
faucet	tap
flashlight	torch
french fries	chips
gas	petrol
hood	bonnet
line	queue
long distance	trunk call
mail	post
mezzanine	dress circle
orchestra	stalls
panty hose	tights
pavement	road surface
purse	handbag
sidewalk	pavement
stick shift	gear stick
street cars	trams
subway	Underground (tube)
thread	cotton
trunk	boot
vest	waistcoat
wash cloth	face flannel
wholewheat bread	brown bread

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